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REVIEWS OF NEW BOOKS.

New Sketches of Every-day Life: a Diary. Together with Strife and Peace. By Frederika Bremer. Translated by Mary Howitt. 2 vols. Longmans.

Strife and Peace: Scenes in Norway. By Frederika Bremer. Translated from the Swedish. 8vo, double cols. pp. 48. London, W. Smith. The President's Daughter. Pp. 71. Idem. The H— Family. Pp. 62. Idem.

WHEN translator meets translator, then comes the tug of literature, and popularity and profit. The Bremer war which has arisen out of the above publications is a fearful one; and yet, with all the natural dread of interfering in a quarrel, we are bound in our critical position to take some notice of this affray. To Mary Howitt the British public is much indebted for bringing it acquainted with the clever and characteristic writings of Frederika Bremer. But for her sagacity in discovering their merits, and talent in rendering them into a pleasant and accurate English dress, these works, like many continental productions of great interest and talent, might have spent their confined lustre amid the northern lights of their native Sweden. As is usually the case, however, no sooner was the field indicated, and some of the harvest reaped, than in rushed imitators and rivals, anxious to have also a cut at the corn, if not with a regular scythe or sickle, at any rate with a sharpened iron hoop or a long bowie knife. And hence the conflict, into the particulars of which the preface to the *New Sketches* and *Strife and Peace* enters at large, shewing us that there is, between the translators and publishers, Strife enough and no Peace. It opens thus:—

"In presenting the present volumes of my series of Miss Bremer's works, circumstances compel me to some explanation, not only on my own account, but for the interests of translated literature. An individual has proceeded not only to thrust himself into the very midst of my series, but has made an impudent attempt to injure my edition, as if I were publishing it in too costly a style. It is a fact which testifies most strikingly to the honourable feeling, both of the press and amongst the publishers generally, that to my knowledge not only many of the most respectable journals have refused to yield to the pressing entreaties made to them to sanction and introduce these dishonourable interlopers, but publishers who are importers of American works have declined to sell these cheap American pennyworths when sent to them. There has yet been found but one man out of the vast mass of English publishers who has been mean enough to thrust himself into the series which I had introduced at my own risk, so much to the satisfaction of the public; and what is more, there has not been found a single literary person, either in this country or America, who would put his or her name to another translation."

The question whether having begun such a series as this confers a prescriptive right to do the whole, is one that we could not peremptorily decide in favour of any claimant; but looking fairly at the circumstances of this case,

we must say that the mode of interloping, and the pretensions put forward, and the manner of executing the task, seem to us to be all and altogether unworthy of just and liberal trade. The least that is due to the first worker in the mine is, not to dash your pick-axe into the ore immediately under his eyes, nor to hurry any out roughly and imperfectly to spoil his market, nor indeed to interfere with a declared design which has been to a considerable extent carried into effect in a creditable manner, merely for the sake of anticipating an honest purpose for a paltry gain. Mary Howitt, feeling much aggrieved, proceeds to remonstrate in no measured terms:—"If a man will, however, advocate the public good, let him at least dare and risk something for it. But this man does not risk a doit for it. He does not move till he sees that I have tested the risk, and created a public for the work; when he steps in, passes over the volumes on which I am at the moment engaged, and pounces on the next before me. This marks the prowler and the literary body-snatcher."

The pretence of publishing cheap (the general excuse of all those who originate nothing themselves, but copy or pirate from others) for the public good is thus exploded:

"And what have we got instead from this advocate of public good? An importation and reprint of anonymous abridgments of these works, got up and curtailed, both in style and quantity, into the limits suited to the American cheap market, and abounding with Americanisms, which all well-educated persons will be careful not to introduce into their families; as 'she is a going'—'vanity belittles a woman'—'sleighs, and sleds, and sleighing,' for sledges and sledging—'surroundings,' for environs; with such Yankee slang as 'he got mad in love, and she gave him the bag,' &c.; as any one may convince himself who looks into these eye-destroying small prints. That it is not a mere assertion that these are, in fact, abridgments, or at least miserably garbled copies, I will speedily shew; but, in the first place, it may be as well to give the history of these American translations. Every one who has paid the least attention to what has been going on in America knows that the American publishers have been tearing each other limb from limb in the matter of reprints of English new works. Works which cost a guinea each here were reprinted there immediately for a shilling each. Such became the fury of American competition, that not one such reprint of such a work appeared, but half a dozen simultaneously. The madness was soon so great that these people were seen advertising, one against another, sixpenny works, of which the mere paper was worth twice the money. To such a pitch was this carried, that any thing like native literature was quashed. No native author could obtain a copyright remuneration. There was no profit to give it. Our authors supplied their market, and their authors were almost universally compelled to come to this country to obtain any thing for a new work; and all sensible men lamented, and still lament, that, under such circumstances, no national American literature can possibly arise. What the result

of this competition-mania has been, many a publishing-house could shew in frightful accounts on the wrong sides of their ledgers. The story, however, is plainly told every day in their newspapers. The New York correspondent of the 'Boston Evening Gazette,' a family-newspaper of July 8, 1843, says: 'As to the cheap republications—the system is dead. A few houses, the Harpers, Winchesters, &c., print occasionally; but from the best information I can get, nothing is gained by it; and probably publications will go back to a medium price and a shape suitable for preservation—a consummation devoutly to be wished.' Such is the upshot of the American cheap republication-mania."

The concluding portions of this extract certainly divert us into a rather collateral subject; but it is one of so much consequence to literature that we make no apology for copying it at length. With regard to the publications in our title, Mrs. Howitt proceeds to state:

"The simple fact, however, is, and I am now in a condition to demonstrate it most satisfactorily, as I now print my translation of one of the stories which has been reprinted from the American translation—'Strife and Peace;' and it will be in the power of any one to test the matter, and see that these American translations are not at all translated from the Swedish, but from the German; and so far, as I will directly shew, from replacing the numerous important passages omitted by the carelessness of the German translator, the Americans purposely cut away a vast number more, in order to reduce the work to as cheap a quantity as possible. That they are translated from the German, and not from the Swedish, every page will prove; for the blunders and misconceptions of the German translator, often very ludicrous, are most regularly and carefully copied."

We cite one of the proofs: "Near the end of 'Strife and Peace,' Mrs. Astrid, writing to her friend the bishop, tells him that all her troubles are now over, and bids him come and rejoice with her. 'Kom,' she says, 'och mottag min anger öfver min klenmodighet, öfver min knot; kom, och hjelp mig att tacka!' 'Come and receive my contrition for my pusillanimity, for my repining; come and help me to express my thanks!' This the German translates—'Kommen sie, und helfen sie mir denken!' Which the American translator, with Chinese fidelity, copies, and the Englishman as faithfully reprints—'Come and help me to think!' As to the completeness of the translation, let us take at random a dip into 'Strife and Peace.' The chapter on Nordland, a chapter which, independently of the letter it contains, consists only of six paragraphs, has, in Smith's edition, two out of those six omitted, besides a portion of the letter itself. These two passages are extremely descriptive of life and scenery, and make no less than fourteen lines of the original. At page 16 occurs another omission, descriptive of the domestic life; page 27 another of no less than nine lines, descriptive of the wild Halling dance. This is immediately followed by another, descriptive of the Halling costume. On the next column of the same page is another, descriptive of the music of the Hardanger

viol. All these break up dreadfully the beautiful and wild picture of Norwegian life and festivity."

Now we presume our readers will agree that we have gone far enough into this quarrel; and we have only to add, that we regret to see Mr. Smith, to whom we owe thanks for many welcome publications, mixed up in it from adopting the American editions.

With regard to the Swedish novelties themselves, we have to express our pleasure in reading both Mrs. Howitt's translations. The *Diary* is not unworthy of F. Bremer, and has many sparkling bits.

"The life of a rich old bachelor," said he with a sigh, which awakened in me the thought that he found himself burdened with as many wives and children as Rochus Pumpernickel—"the life of a rich old bachelor is, indeed, a continual"—"The life of a rich old bachelor," said the first speaker also with a sigh, "is a splendid breakfast, a tolerably flat dinner, and a most miserable supper!" is a concise graphic definition: and the following marks the discriminating powers of the writer:—

"My step-mother cast an uneasy glance towards the door. Selma's song ceased; Flora looked quietly from the window, and upon—St. Orme, who entered the room. He and I were now formally introduced to each other. The repulsive impression which he had made upon me was not diminished by the shake of his hand. I receive an especial impression of the sort of person by the manner of taking the hand, and cannot avoid drawing deductions therefrom—more, however, by instinct than by reason, since my reason refuses to be led by outward impressions, which may be merely accidental; but I cannot alter it. A cordial warm shake of the hand takes—my heart; a feeble or imperfect, or cold, one repels it. There are people who press the hand so that it is painful for a good while afterwards; there are also those who come with two fingers; from these defend us!"

We refrain, as is our wont, from interfering with the story; and therefore, only remarking that it bears the impress of the author's manner and skill throughout, we shut the book with the sad picture of a faded belle.

"Flora's sister, 'the beauty,' looked this evening uncommonly little of a beauty. One saw plainly that the charm of her youth was over, and that the time approached when people would say 'she does not please me.' For my part I never thought much of Flora's sister, and I never found that she had more than two thoughts in her soul, 'the theatre and dress.' But there dwelt this evening on her countenance an expression of dejection and secret pain, which made me seek her out when she withdrew from the animated drawing-room into my stepmother's room, which was merely lighted by a shaded lamp and adorned with white flowers. In this pretty blooming little world sate the fading 'beauty,' supporting her brow upon her hand. I spoke friendly words to her, and my voice must have testified of my sympathy; for by degrees she opened her inmost heart, and this had now interest for me. 'I feel,' said she, among other things, 'that I have sacrificed too much to the world. The world and mankind are so thankless! I have wished too much to please people. This will now no longer succeed. Now that I am now no longer young, nor rich, nor have any longer that which pleases or flatters them, they withdraw themselves and leave me alone, and I—I know not whether I should turn myself. Methinks the world grows dark around me—I feel, as it were, a fear of

spectres—it is so empty, so desolate—I have nothing which interests me—the days are so long—I have ennui!" The bitter tears which followed these words, expressed more strongly even than words the lamentable in the condition of the complainer. And what, indeed, is heavier to bear than the emptiness of life? What, indeed, is more horrible than that twilight in life, without a star in heaven, without one single little light on earth?"

Strife and Peace is rather in a more melancholy tone than its precursor, though there is a happy ending. From it we can afford but to copy one passage by way of sample. It is descriptive and animated; a letter written by a lover to his beloved.

"*Tromsøe, May 28th.*—Were you but here, my Alette! I miss you every moment whilst I am arranging my dwelling for your reception, and feel continually the necessity of asking, 'how do you wish it? what think you of it?' Ah, that you were here, my own beloved, at this moment! and you would be charmed with this 'ice and bear land,' before which, I know, you secretly shudder. The country around here is not wild and dark; as, for example, at Helgoland. Leafy woods garland the craggy shores of our island, and around them play the waves of the sea in safe bays and creeks. Our well-built little city lies sweetly upon the southern side of the island, only divided from the mainland by a narrow arm of the sea. My house is situated in the street which runs along the large convenient harbour. At this moment about twenty vessels lie at anchor, and the various flags of the different nations wave in the evening wind. There are English, German, and especially Russian, which come to our coast, in order to take our fish, our eider-down, and so on, in exchange for their corn and furs. Besides these, the inhabitants of more southern regions bring hither a vast number of articles of luxury and fashion, which are eagerly purchased by the inhabitants of Kola, and the borders of the White Sea. Long life to commerce! My soul expands at the sight of its life.

What has not commerce done from the beginning of the world for the embellishment of life, for promoting the friendly intercourse of countries and people, for the refinement of manners! It has always given me the most heartfelt delight, that the wisest and most humane of the lawgivers of antiquity—Solon—was a merchant. 'By trade,' says one of his biographers, 'by wisdom, and music, was his soul fashioned. Long life to commerce! What lives not through it?' What is all fresh life, all movement, in reality, but trade, exchange, gift for gift! In love, in friendship, in the great life of the people, in the quiet family circle, everywhere where I see happiness and prosperity, see I also trade; nay, what is the whole earth if not a colony from the mother country of heaven, and whose well-being and happy condition depend upon free export and import! The simile might be still further carried out, yet—thou good Giver above, pardon us that we have ventured upon it!"—"Whilst I write this, I hear music, which makes upon me a cheerful and a melancholy impression at the same time. They are eight Russians, who sing one of their national songs, whilst in the quiet evening they sail down the Tromsøe-sound. They sing a quartet, and with the most complete purity and melody. They sing in a minor key, but yet not mournfully; they row in the deep shadow of the shore, and at every stroke of the oars the water shines around the boat, and drops, as of fire, fall from the oars. The phenomenon is not uncommon on the Atlantic; and know you not, my Alette, what it is which shines and burns so in the sea? It is

love! At certain moments, the consciousness of the sea-insects rises to a high pitch of vividness, and millions of existences, invisible to the naked human eye, then celebrate the bliss of their being. In such moments the sea kindles; then every little worm, inspired by love, lights up its tiny lamp. Yet only for a moment burns its flame, then all the quicker to be extinguished. But it dies without pain, dies joyfully. Rich nature! Good Creator! My heart also burns. I look upon the illuminated element, which may be said to be full of enjoyment; I listen to the melody of the singers, full of joy and pain, and—I stretch forth my arms to you, Alette, my Alette!"

Of the *H— Family*, the novelty in the cheap Standard Library edition, we are sorry to say, we have little to approve (or, Yankee, appropriate), and much to censure. We regret that such a story should have come from the pen of Frederika Bremer; for the relationship in blood of the parties implicated is so near as to be revolting to the best feelings of our nature. The slightest approach to incestuous passion is always odious: need we say more? In justice to the publisher, we copy the following from his introductory notice:

"For the following excellent translation of another of Miss Bremer's Swedish fictions, the public is again indebted to an American source. In this particular field foreign enterprise contrasts favourably with our own. What the London purchaser has been obliged to give half-a-guinea for, the purchaser in Boston has had for eightpence. While German translators have found themselves remunerated by charging three shillings for the 'President's Daughters' and 'Nina,' English translators have thought that nothing less than a guinea and a half could compensate their toil. It would thus seem, that in London, in Leipzig, and in Boston, very different notions prevail as to the labours and rewards of translators. But it also appears, from a late preface to one of the London publications, that our countrymen have had this heavy tax imposed especially upon them, less for the toil of translation than the merit of original discovery. It is not agreeable to have to question a merit clamoured for so loudly; but the discovery of a discovery hardly justifies the claim. It is true, that when Frederika Bremer, the daughter of a merchant in Stockholm, began to issue her charming tales, she was left, as far as foreign countries were concerned, to continue her labours without notice or attention; and beyond Sweden, in the course of more than eight years, her fame had not reached. But then it happened, namely, in 1841, that a great German publisher, Brockhaus of Leipzig, projected a 'Select Library of Foreign Classics,' and had the good taste and really original spirit to commence the work with a translation of Miss Bremer's 'Neighbours.' He was rewarded, though he had charged but two shillings both for discovery and translation; and before the end of 1842, out of sixteen volumes of his 'Foreign Library' then issued, ten were devoted to the stories of Miss Bremer. It was at the close of 1842, when all the intelligence of Germany had borne testimony to the beauties of these books, and when other German publishers had followed the example of Brockhaus, that the first English translation, the English discovery of the discovery of Brockhaus was announced."—"The clever version of Kohl's 'Russia' sent forth by Mr. Colburn, only made more welcome the equally clever and much cheaper translation of the same amusing book in Messrs. Chapman and Hall's 'Foreign Library.' And on the

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same principle, he [the publisher] trusts that he will himself be thought not undeserving of the public favour and support, if he brings within the reach of humble means, by these American reprints and original translations from the Swedish now in hand, the entire series of Frederika Bremer's fictions."

The case is for the public *sub judice*.

Memoirs of R. W. Elliston, Comedian. 1774 to 1810. By George Raymond, Esq. With Illustrations by George Cruikshank. 8vo, pp. 438. London, J. Mortimer.

THIS volume (the first devoted by Mr. Raymond to the memoirs of the gay and fanciful Elliston) having appeared among the ornaments of *Ainsworth's Magazine*, and not only been well relished by the public, but led to other productions of a similar sort in other quarters, we are absolved from the duty of criticism, for as "corbies do not pick out corbies' een (eyes)," we rarely adventure to offer any remarks upon our contemporaries. We may, however, say that this biography is written in an agreeable and congenial spirit; and that, happily devoid of parade or ostentation, it tells its varied story in a light and very pleasant manner. A portrait after Harlowe is a welcome frontispiece; and three bits by Cruikshank and a dozen of popular autographs are also judicious adjuncts to the text. But, independently of these, there is an interesting and well-written introduction, in which Mr. R. traces the history of old Drury, its patents, patentees, and most eminent performers. We think we cannot do better than make an extract or two from this, in order to exhibit the intelligence and talent of the author, though certainly in a very brief fashion:—

"When Elliston was in a dying state, at his house in Blackfriars Road, his friend Mr. Durrant was near him, and being anxious his patient should take some medicine prescribed for him, said, 'Come, come, Elliston, you must indeed swallow this. Take it, and you shall have a wine-glass of weak brandy and water!' Elliston raised his eyes, and, with still a comic smile, replied, 'Ah, you rogue—bribery and corruption!'"

The original memoranda for these memoirs had, it seems, been placed in the hands of the late Theodore Hook, who, however, could not find time to edit them: and Mr. R. tells us:—

"With one little anecdote Mr. Hook was especially pleased. In 1821, when Elliston was lessee of Drury Lane theatre, the king wished to give some directions respecting his own box, and Elliston was desired, in consequence, to be in attendance at Carlton House. The manager was honoured by an interview; the king having expressed his desires on the subject; and Elliston being about to retire, his majesty condescendingly expressed, in pointed terms, his wishes for the lessee's success in his arduous undertaking of management, when Elliston, by one of those strange impulses so peculiar to him, replied, 'If you, Sir, are loyal, I must obtain the victory.'"

The concluding general observations bear so strongly on the grand question of dramatic entertainments, that we have much satisfaction in copying them:—

"The closing of Drury Lane theatre on the 14th of June last may be considered an epoch in the era of the British stage. That sister temple of the dramatic muse, which scarcely thirty autumns since, was thrown open to the glorious enchantment of Macbeth, under the presiding intelligence of Kemble, had been for

some weeks silent as the tomb; and in June last, ever-memorable Drury, within whose walls had congregated the pride of England's genius—wits, poets, and statesmen—where the 'picked and chosen of the world' delighted to assemble, and whose idlest fancies were sought like flowers in May, by the less favoured classes, became a cenotaph of departed art. Yet spite the general apathy in the public mind for many a past day in respect of the drama, the recent efforts of Mr. Macready to uphold the reeling column had produced in some a responsive anxiety for his success. There were some few who yet with earnest hopes followed the exertions of the only one apparently left, in whom to hope at all was reasonable. But to the suppliant 'cause' itself, its antique glories and its imperishable essence, the generation at large was no longer to be steadily excited. Single-handed its avenger had contended, if not successfully, at least brilliantly; and this last struggle he had made was graced in its failure by those honours and distinctions which had hitherto been the portion only of a triumph. Thus, by the above and other conspiring circumstances, the drama may almost be said to be erased from the list of our intellectual stock—an altar on which the faith of all people, ancient or modern, had been accustomed to make libation—a household divinity from the opening dawn of civilisation, and occupying in maturer days the proudest niche in the temples of polished nations. The drama, through which veneration to the gods had been instructed—in whose garb the majesty of poetry had appeared most kingly—through which the lesson of virtue had gone forth, as from an oracle—the love of soil and the gentler claims of home and kindred had found the way to deepest sympathies—the drama, which had ever taught all that was best and noblest to be learnt, was neglected as an obsolete and worthless appendage on the times, and a hindrance in the path of worldly traffic. Even when cast under that memorable ban in the days of the Puritans, the drama yet found refuge amongst many who fondly accounted its value, looking forward beyond that bleak and rugged season, fitted only to those stern qualities which the fortune of the times had called into action, and contemplating a day of intellectual sunshine into which it might again be elevated. At that period, though deprived of their theatre by a very interdiction of law, the taste and affection for the drama was strikingly proved in many; for besides performances, sometimes accomplished by stealth, and sometimes acquired by bribery, under the very brow of Oliver, they tasted of the festive cup, and drank in the inspirations of the proscribed spirit, within the walls of many nobles, and particularly the sheltering roof of Holland House. English literature, in truth, was cradled in the drama, and under it ripened into vigour and manhood. Had the temper of those times resembled the present, these young creations had never perhaps been brought to maturity. The now imperishable mind of Shakespeare had in all probability never have come down to us, had Heming and Condell felt no sympathy for the worth of their illustrious brother. To contemplate the possibility of what might have been lost, by what has been preserved and perpetuated, is a reflection not unmingled with a sense of awe. 'Fastidiousness and hypocrisy,' said the *Edinburgh Review*, many a day past, 'have been growing for years, slowly but surely; and we have at last arrived at such a pitch, that there is hardly a line in the works of our old writers that is esteemed. We are

more completely than any other nation the victims of fashion. The despotism of dress or in furniture is not in itself very important; but it is a cruel grievance that it should interfere with and annihilate an entire department of our literature.' These sentiments were expressed at a time when the grievance was considered at its height. But 'slowly and surely' has it indeed since proceeded. Patronage and support to this intellectual commerce might have been at that time no better than empty names, but empty now are the warehouses themselves; the very doors of the chamber are closed; and the only sterile spot in the heart of London is the site of the temple of all the Muses."

Remarks on English Churches, and on the Expediency of rendering Sepulchral Memorials subservient to pious and Christian uses. By J. H. Markland, F.R.S. and S.A. Pp. 247. Oxford, J. H. Parker; London, Rivingtons; Bath, Simms and Son, Pocock, and Collings. An Endeavour to classify the Sepulchral Remains in Northamptonshire, &c. By the Rev. C. H. Hartshorne, M.A., F.S.A. Pp. 58. London and Cambridge, J. W. Parker.

WE confess to both these volumes being a reproach to our antiquarian zeal; and the more distinctly shewn by the words "third edition enlarged" being impressed upon the title-page of the first of them. They are both so interesting, that our common excuse of the press of temporary subjects is but a lame one; and therefore, with promises to amend in future, we throw ourselves upon the complacency of the authors and the indulgence of our readers to pardon our delay.

These and a considerable number of other publications of the same genus, shew how much attention is now turned to matters connected with church building and regulation; to ancient monumental memorials, and the expediency or propriety attached, both as to place and inscription, to modern erections of the same kind, and to sepulture generally; and what is due to the right consideration of questions affecting the relations between the dead and the living, and the worship of the Creator of all.

Mr. Markland, in a fine spirit, has taken the field against the barbarous defacements and spoliation of the churches of England; and has, we trust, succeeded in stirring up a feeling which will drive the Vandals, like the money-changers of Jerusalem, from these temples, be they grand cathedrals or simple village edifices. The reverence which has been awakened for these sanctuaries of Christian faith, and prayer, and praise, we may be assured will not soon sleep again, but on the contrary grow and gather force. The disgrace of taking fees for admission to see these holy fanes, as if they were waxwork, or Chinese or Indian exhibitions, will, it is likely, be speedily entirely abolished, and those of provincial and rural humility be preserved in future from being cleaned, decorated, repaired, or improved by Solomon wardens and vestries, at the expense of taste and antiquity, as well as of the parish. Architecture is at least struggling for a better understood position; and some things have at length actually been done which are not a discredit to the age and country.

Mr. M. is earnest upon the subject of pews. He says:—"The following is the earliest notice of church-seats that I have met with; and it is worthy of remark, that even in the thirteenth century they appear to have been the

cause of strife. In a synod of the diocese of Exeter, held under its bishop, Peter de Quivil, 1284, the following regulations were made: 'Item audivimus, quod propter *sedilia* in ecclesiis rixantur multoties parochiani, duobus vel pluribus unum sedile vendicantibus; propter quod grave scandalum in ecclesiis generatur, et divinum sæpius impeditur officium; statuimus, quod nullus de cætero quasi proprium sedile in ecclesiis valeat vendicare, nobilibus personis et ecclesiarum patronis duntaxat exceptis; si qui orandi causa primo ecclesiam introierit juxta propriæ voluntatis arbitrium sibi eligat orandi locum.' The history of pews having been so recently investigated, it would be needless here to pursue it; but it may be observed, that more than 300 years after Bishop Quivil's decree another prelate was called upon to interfere in a like vexatæ questio. From a letter addressed, in 1625, by Bishop Buckeridge to the mayor of Rochester, and the vicar and churchwardens of the parish of St. Nicholas in that city, it appears that his opinion had been asked as to placing certain knights, and ladies, and others from the neighbouring parishes, 'who, out of devotion to the preaching of the gospel,' resorted to that church, but who could not claim seats. The bishop, as we may suppose, was not desirous to adjudicate on a matter of so much delicacy and importance, and tells his correspondents that he 'coude have bin content, that yo'selves amongst yo'selves should have disposed therein;' but, sad to say, he held it fit, that when the intruders did come to the church, 'they should have places answerable to their rank and quality.' He did not 'thinke it fitt that men and women should be placed in the same seats, neither that women should be allowed to sitt in the chancell, which was instituted for clerkes. If you thinke good, you may dispose of such knights in the seats in the quier. And it had bin fitt (for the avoyding all contenc'on about higher roomes in such publique assemblies) that you had reserved two of the principall and highest pews on one side of the church, where such ladies, and others that are straungers, might sett.—I forbear further to intermeddle, not doubtinge but that herein you will observe decency and order, accordinge to all mens' states and quality.' Pews naturally produced wainscoting against the walls, which concealed *sedilia*, niches, and much fine carved worked in chancels, and in other parts of the building. Galleries and lofts, or scaffolds as they were called, were raised by officious churchwardens, though frequently needless from the abundant space below; arches were blocked up, and the long perspectives broken. Well might Bishop Montague inquire, 'Are the seats and pews built of an uniformitie; or do they hinder and incumber their neighbours in hearing God's word and performing Divine service?' Fruitful have they been as sources of many an evil thought, word, and work; of vanity to their possessors; of envy to those who coveted them; and of bitterness and litigation throughout a parish.

And he adds in conclusion:—"Let me remark, that we must cordially unite in the feeling, that in the house of God, as elsewhere, the poor are indeed our brethren, and that we must gladly 'be neighboured by the coarse frieze and homely garment when kneeling in his sight who taught us to be humble by washing his disciples' feet.' But whilst we would most readily assist in clearing away vast, square, parlour-like pews, and high boxes (in which even tall persons are so far buried as to render it difficult for them to join in the prayers, or listen to the sermon), wherever these selfish

nuisances are found; whilst, also, we would render every seat in a church as nearly uniform in appearance as they can be, and would devote to the aged poor the seats nearest to the reading-desk and pulpit;—still we must require that the residue of the seats, or the largest portion of them, should be duly appropriated amongst those of the parishioners who are members of the church, and who would constantly use them. There must not be on each succeeding Sunday a scramble for seats; nor must the old, the feeble, and the timid, be kept away from the apprehension of a crowd, or other anticipated difficulties. In placing a congregation, as in the whole service of the sanctuary, let the apostolic injunction be scrupulously observed. Let peace, and not confusion, prevail 'as in all churches of the saints.'"

The following is equally to our mind:—"Wherever wainscoting is found in churches, it is most desirable that it should always be taken down, in order to ascertain whether some stonework of ornamental character is not concealed behind it. There is little question but that such would often be discovered, and in that case good taste would suggest the removal of the wainscoting altogether. In Hereford cathedral, by the recent removal of the Grecian altar-screen of oak, with its urns and painted drapery, three beautiful Norman arches on either side with the triforium are presented, and a view has been obtained through a Norman arch of splendid workmanship into the Lady Chapel. The contrast between the altered state of this part of the cathedral and its former barbarisms is decided; and wonder is the consequence at the infatuation, which had produced the exchange of sound architectural composition for the most paltry and inappropriate incumbrance."

Respecting sepulchral memorials there is much interesting information and much valuable advice; but with so much (from so many sources) before us, we must shut this volume* with an epitaph. It is an example "to shew, that, however extravagantly individuals might be praised by poets, the language of prose writers could well nigh outstrip them. The following is but an extract—

'To the sacred memory of the late transcendently virtuous lady, now glorious saint, the right honourable Elizabeth, countess of Bridgewater.—She was a lady, in whom all the accomplishments, both of body and mind, did concur to make her the glory of the present and example of future ages; her beauty was so unparalleled that it is as much beyond the art of the most elegant pen, as it surpassed the skill of several the most exquisite pencils (that attempted it) to describe and not to disparage it. . . . The rich at her table daily tasted her hospitality; the poor at her gate her charity; her devotion most exemplary, if not imitable. . . . In a word, she was so superlatively good, that language is too narrow to express her deserved character; her death was as religious as her life was virtuous. On the fourteenth day of June, in the year of our Lord 1663, of her own age 37, she exchanged her earthly coronet for an heavenly crown.'

Must we not cordially agree with the sentiments lately expressed on this subject, that, when recumbent figures were exchanged for 'ladies in ruffles, leaning on their elbows, staring us in the face, the religion of monuments began to be less considered?' The cross was forgotten—self was commended; lengthy epitaphs, proverbially false and incredible, appeared; men's virtues, not Christ's merits, what they have done, not what they need, or have left undone, make up a pompous record, seldom read, and never believed."

Mr. Hartshorne's handsome volume is, like

* It is announced that any profits resulting from its publication are to be given in aid of the funds for completing St. Stephen's church, in the parish of Walcot, Bath.

Mr. Markland's, appropriately embellished. He states, that "the earliest modes practised for the burial of the dead in Great Britain were—1. Under cairns, or heaps of stones. 2. Under cromlechs; which are monuments consisting of three or more upright stones, with a flat one lying across the top. 3. Within circles, or enclosures of upright stones. 4. Under tumuli, or barrows. These four kinds of monuments are of an age anterior to the conquest of the island by the Romans; they may be ascribed to the Celtic or Belgic Britons, though there are also some that belong to a later period. Cairns are found chiefly on mountains or hilly places, where the materials for their construction lie at hand. The mountains in Scotland, Ireland, and Wales, exhibit numerous specimens. They are almost equally abundant in the county of Cornwall and the Welsh borders. There are several in Shropshire; each of the three Cleve Hills, for instance, furnish specimens, though from these remains being found in unpopulated and hilly districts, they have escaped notice. Few cairns have been opened; but wherever it has been done, they have been found to maintain a striking resemblance to each other, and all of them alike indicate a state of society that was rude and uncivilised. Cromlechs (C. Brit. *crom-leg*, a stone that inclines), or the second class, have erroneously been considered as druidical altars, or stones upon which the druidic priesthood performed magical and mysterious rites—where they sacrificed human victims. This false notion, which had never any thing better than conjecture to support it, has continued prevalent in the world down to the present time; and you will scarcely open a book that tells you the truth, or what the real design of these monuments was. Authors have been content to copy each other's fables; none having been at the pains to excavate or dig into any of the monuments in question, so as to ascertain what was the purpose of their erection. The researches that have very recently been made regarding them by my friend Mr. Lukis, in the Channel Islands, in Guernsey, Jersey, Alderney, and Sark, where they abound, have set their intention completely out of doubt. Similar operations have been carried on by Mr. Petrie, an eminent Irish antiquary, and have been attended with the same success. The general contents of these Guernsey cromlechs consist of a stratum of burnt human bones and coarse unbaked pottery. All the bodies appear to have originally been deposited with some degree of order and care. The surface of the natural soil was rudely paved with flat beach stones. On this pavement was a stratum of rolled pebbles, on which were placed the human ashes and pottery; above the burnt bones were flat stones similar to those forming the pavement, and over these a thick stratum of limpet-shells. In some cases the urns, when nearly perfect, contained the bones; but generally the fragments were scattered about and mixed up with the bones. Mullers, stone amulets, clay beads, and stone celts, were the articles chiefly found in them. The cromlechs are sometimes surrounded by a circle of stones, which brings me to the third class of sepulchral monuments I mentioned. And here again I shall correct an error equally prevalent with the one already adverted to. For whilst the cromlechs have been considered as druidical altars, these enclosures of upright stones have in turn been hitherto reputed as bardic circles; by which I suppose is meant circles where the ancient bards repeated their poetic triads. But this notion is equally vague and incorrect with the former one. I had long felt dissatisfied with

the idea that those circles of upright stones were applied to such refined purposes as was pretended, nor could I at all imagine that savage tribes should cultivate verse to such an extent, that the tops of the highest mountains should be consecrated to their recitation, and become almost covered with monuments, within which the poetic priesthood of the day rehearsed their effusions. I could not bring myself to believe that wandering barbarians were so highly gifted; and I suspected that all authorities which would lead me to accredit such improbable notions might be in error, and not much better than my own. I had stated these opinions pretty boldly in print, before Mr. Lukis made me acquainted with his own labours, or, in fact, before he had commenced them. The result of his operations has fully established my inductions to be facts. They have also been abundantly borne out by the excavations that have recently been carried on within the circles at Killmille in the county of Sligo, where vestiges of no less than sixty cromlechs are visible on the top of one mountain alone. And finally, the question has been settled by the additional evidence we have lately derived from antiquaries at Copenhagen, where monuments of this nature are very abundant. The book of Mons. Sjöberg, which treats upon them, is highly valuable; and, if it were not written in Swedish, I should recommend it as extremely entertaining. The remaining class of monuments belonging to this early period that were mentioned, are barrows or tumuli. These are assignable to a later age than the foregoing, and they are more numerous scattered over the surface of the country. There is not, in fact, any county without them."

These belong to a late Roman period. The Saxon era and the introduction of Christianity led to the disuse of pagan methods of disposing of the dead; and from the commencement of the 11th century, coffins of wood, stone, or lead were employed for interments. The chivalrous tombs in so many of our churches, and their quaint (rather later?) contemporaries of graduated kneeling families, obtain notice and description. Brasses also receive the historical observation and discussion they deserve. The earliest now to be traced is that of Simon de Beauchamp, who completed the foundation of Newenham Abbey, died before 1208, and was buried in St. Paul's Church, Bedford; but this art and way of remembering the dead had certainly been in use long before, when sumptuous monuments crowding churches, rendered some other kind of perpetuation absolutely necessary. "In its original and more perfect state the sepulchral brass was a work of great beauty. It may be said to be a copperplate engraving, from which, as you may observe by the surrounding examples, impressions could readily be obtained; and considering that the art of engraving was not discovered until 1460, or two hundred and sixty years later than the invention of these sepulchral plates, it seems surprising that, with them in existence, the art of taking impressions should have continued unknown during the whole of that interval." Not only for military, but for ecclesiastical costume, they are rich in information; and we have great pleasure in referring the curious to Mr. Hartshorne's book for farther intelligence, both literary and graphic.

The Heretic. Translated from the Russian of Lajéchnikov, by T. B. Shaw, B.A., &c. 3 vols. Blackwoods.

MR. SHAW expresses surprise that the literature of Russia (rich in many materials) should

have been so utterly neglected by the purveying translators of England; but when we consider how very few understand the language, our wonder must cease. And we are, for that reason, the more indebted to any one who does understand it, and especially one who is capable, like Mr. Shaw, of rendering it (as far as we can judge) as correctly as spiritedly into our own tongue, for performing that task. A useful preface distinguishes verbal, pronouncing, and constructive features in Russ; and a historical introduction prepares us for the romance of the *Heretic*—a vivid picture of the beginning of the 16th century, embracing Italy, Germany, and Muscovy. The features of the latter will be found particularly new and interesting; and the story itself of the Baron, so wildly obtained from his parents, and revengefully degraded into a Physician, is one to rivet the regards of the reader from beginning to end. With this general praise, and only two short extracts, we will dismiss the work; and we need but add, that, besides being one of the most original productions we have seen for a length of time, it is also one rich in character, in the description of manners, and in plot, incident, and dénouement. On the physician's route in the Muscovite territory:

"Before they got down to the river, the travellers had observed that the column of smoke arose from a pile lighted on the stream itself. Was it some festival—a relic of the times of idolatry? Was it a dance round a fire? Perhaps it was some inconsolable widow, who was about to burn herself in the Indian fashion.... The mob is shouting, laughing, clapping its hands—it is clear some sport is preparing. Close to the pile itself the sledges stopped; the crowd rendering it impossible to pass further. A strange spectacle awaited the new-comers! The blazing pile was about fourteen feet in width. On the other side of the fire were heard shouts of triumph and delight. A throng of people were approaching it, dragging along some large object. What could it be—a bell? But as soon as its two-legged team stepped aside, the spectators beheld a cage, grated with thick iron wire, and within it two men. One was a youth; the other appeared aged. The despair in their eyes—their prayers—the blazing pile—the iron cage—the delight of the mob... O, it was doubtless an execution that was about to take place! The cage was pushed along on rollers—right into the blazing pile! The flame, stifled for a moment by the heavy weight, belched forth volumes of smoke—the bottom of the cage began to writhe, and soon crackled in the heat. A groan was heard. The hearts of the travellers were frozen with horror; their hair bristled on their heads. Antony and his comrades implored the officers to remove them from this agonising scene; they were answered that, as an example to others, a punishment was being inflicted on villainous, godless traitors, Lithuanians, the Prince Iván Loukómskii and his interpreter Matiphas, who had attempted to poison the great prince, the lord of all Russia, Iván Vassilievitch. Antony began, through the interpreter, to urge his request with warmth. No answer was returned. 'By Almighty God,' cried the sufferers, bowing to the people; 'by our God and yours, we swear—we are innocent! O Lord! thou seest that we are guiltless; and thou knowest who have accused us before the great prince.... Momón, Roussálka—yes shall answer in the other world!... Unhappy strangers, why have ye come hither? Beware.... In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and'.... The smoke enveloped them in its volumes, and stifled the

words on the lips of the wretched men. 'Ha, ha! they bellow!' cried the spectators. The bridge over the river Moskvá, in sight of which this horrid scene took place, was creaking under the crowd. The balustrade yielded and swayed beneath the pressure. In vain did the old men and people of experience warn the foolhardy spectators; the only reply was the voice of Russian fatalism—'We cannot die twice, and once we must.' And immediately after this the balustrade crashed in sunder, and carried with it dozens of people on the ice of the Moskvá. Many were fatally injured. By this time the fire had begun to burst freely forth from under the cage, and many branched tongues of flame began to lick its sides. A fiery fountain spouted from the bottom. Two dark figures could be distinguished through the blaze. They embraced each other... fell... and in a short time nothing remained of the n but ashes, which the wind bore into the bystanders' eyes. The iron cage grew red-hot—along its crimson bars ran here and there bright sparks, which snapped like fire-works."

Our last morsel is a court scene:

"As he spoke, Roussálka approached and informed them that the lord great prince, Iván Vassilievitch, commanded them to 'behold his imperial eyes.' They entered a chamber of moderate size. Iván Vassilievitch, robed in a splendid habit, was seated on an ivory chair, on which the skilful and delicate chisel of Grecian art had represented various events of sacred and profane history. Up to this throne was an ascent of three steps, carpeted with cramoisy damask. At the sides stood two boyárens, and next to one of them a stool, on which was placed a silver basin and ewer, together with a fine towel, delicately bordered with lace. Over the chair hung the portrait of a woman of exquisite beauty. This picture—or, as our ancestors called it, this *Tsarévna*, drawn in a frame—had been sent to Moscow by Pope Paul II., at the time when a marriage was proposed between the great prince and the daughter of Palæologos. On two of the walls were fixed oaken cupboards for plate, &c., inlaid with gold; in which, through glass doors, might be seen silver cups, destined, it would seem, for the use of giants. Add to this, two stoves with *lejánkas* of Dutch tiles, decorated with flowers and griffins—a most precious piece of furniture in those days. On a table between two windows was perched a green parrot in a pretty cage, languidly drooping its beak. When Aristotle, who on this occasion served as interpreter, presented the physician, Iván Vassilievitch fixed a penetrating glance on the stranger—partially rose up from his chair, and extended his hand to the physician, which the latter kissed, kneeling on one knee. Immediately after the great prince had been thus polluted by heretic lips, they presented the ewer and basin; but the prince, by a slight gesture, indicated to the boyáren, whose duty it was to perform this service, that his office was not needed. 'O, but how young he is!' said Iván to Aristotle: 'he hath no beard.' 'In wisdom and learning he hath outstripped his years,' replied the artist. 'Right! with you, in warm countries, men ripen sooner than with us. Ay, there came an ambassador from the Roman king—the knight Nicholas Poppel. He was even younger than this.' Then he questioned the physician as to whether he was satisfied with the provisions that had been sent him—whether he wanted for any thing; and, when Antony satisfied him on his own account,

• "A lying-down place."

he began a conversation with him about the state of Italy, the Pope, the political relations of those governments, and the opinion which they had of Russia. His sensible questions, and occasionally sensible answers, formed a singular contrast with the coarse forms of his age, his character, and country. Satisfied with Ehrenstein's replies, he more than once repeated to Aristotle, with evident delight, 'Thou art right: he is of the youngest; but he is early wise.' At length he turned the conversation to Antony's methods of cure. 'How dost thou discover what aileth a man?' he inquired, turning to the physician. 'By what the pulse of the arm of itself informeth us, and by the appearance of the tongue,' replied Ehrenstein. 'Of that we will make instant trial,' said Iván Vassilievitch, and gave command that all the courtiers should immediately hasten to the chamber of audience. They all entered, one after the other, pale, trembling, expecting something terrible from the suddenness of the order. They were commanded to stand in a single line, to open their mouths, and to hold out their hands. Even here was preserved the order of precedence, which had been shortly before introduced, and was strictly enforced. At this inspectorial parade, it was droll to behold the terror painted on their long faces: they could not have been in a less fright, if they had been preparing to undergo an operation. It was hardly possible to refrain from laughing at the singular collection of grimaces offered by the poor patients, as they protruded their tongues and held out their hands. One, with tears in his eyes, lolled forth his tongue, like a calf which they are preparing to slaughter; that of another trembled, like the fork of a serpent; a third opened his mouth wide, like a jaded horse when it yawns. The physician himself laughed in spite of all he could do. When the unfortunate wretches were informed that there was to be an inspection into the state of their health, in many of them the thought of being enchanted by the German sorcerer acted so violently as to throw them into a fever; others hardly escaped a different disorder. They muttered all the prayers they knew; some, notwithstanding the glance of Iván was fixed upon them with all its electric terror, were forced by despair to cry aloud—'Lord, have mercy upon us!' 'Lord, let thy servant depart in peace!' Antony made an inspection of each; to each, through the medium of Aristotle, he put the questions enjoined by his science: and he broke the chains of each in turn, with the sentence—that he was well, and in need of no medicine whatever. 'The nightingale ceased its song, but still they listened on; that is to say, the leech left off his examination, but all the patients continued to hold out their tongues and extend their shaking fists. The sovereign was obliged to order that both the one member and the other should be restored to its ordinary position. What sprinklings of holy water—what exorcisms awaited them at home! Terror long held these suffering worthies in its claws; but stronger than all it agitated Borodátii and—who would have thought it?—Mamón. For this reason, Antony wished to make some sport with them, and particularly with Mamón, for whom he felt an aversion."

Facts and Observations relative to the Influence of Manufactures upon Health and Life. By D. Noble, Surgeon, &c. Pp. 81. London, J. Churchill.

Nothing could be further removed from the truth than the first notions, which were disseminated by a hasty philanthropy, in regard

to the state of health in the manufacturing districts. Happy it is that, as in all other things, there is now a reaction, and people can afford to contemplate the other causes which are in action to conduce to the unhealthy condition of the factory-children, as well as those solely connected with the nature and duration of their labour. We remember when a physician, who has since become eminent in the administration of the poor-law, commenced his career by denouncing the factory-system in its great centre, Manchester,—a surgeon of first standing and great experience in that city said to us, "Sir, we have been grossly calumniated: the factory-children, as such, are as healthy as any other children; but the work is light, and the weak and sickly—the scrofulous, ricketty, phthisical children of a family—the diseased offspring of cellars and low habitations, of bad diet, bad clothing, and bad habits on the parental side, are sent to the factories, and on them is put the blame of what is there observed!" Strange it is that, after the lapse of ten years, this has at length come to be admitted. Yet it might have been known at once, if the committee of the House of Commons, formed under Mr. Sadler's auspices, and whose investigations influenced most both the legislature and the country, had examined the physicians and surgeons of the hospitals and factories in the factory-districts, instead of the great names of the metropolis. Yet so it was: Sir Astley Cooper, Sir Anthony Carlisle, Dr. Blundell, Mr. Malyn, Mr. Hodgkin, Mr. Morgan, Sir W. Blizard, Dr. Elliotson, Mr. Green, and other distinguished metropolitan practitioners, appeared before the board; while from the factory-districts there appeared one from the cotton, Dr. Young of Bolton, and one from the woollen, Dr. Thackrah of Leeds. The metropolitan members of this committee, as might naturally be expected, considering the long hours of employment, the high temperature of the factories, the crowded apartments and the contaminated atmosphere, were unanimous in condemning the system as unwholesome; and the chief evils attested to were dyspepsia, pallidity, scrofula, deformity, precocity, stunted growth, and chronic diseases of various kinds.

After this parliamentary committee had closed its labours, in the year 1833, certain commissioners, including Sir David Barry, Dr. Loudon, and Dr. Bissett Hawkins, were deputed by government to collect, on the spot, all available materials upon which to base just conclusions; and this led to some modifications of former impressions. Sir David Barry, in reference to the condition of the manufacturing operatives in Dunfermline, attested that "their health in general appeared excellent . . . the greater number was healthy, robust, fully grown for age . . . did not see even one case of distortion or narrow pelvis . . . many of the girls were beautifully formed . . . examined 111 girls, with a view to find, if possible, a case in which the plantar arch had been broken down by continual standing, as stated in evidence lately printed . . . found many beautifully formed feet in those who had worked longest." Dr. Hawkins' report, which referred to Manchester, was the reverse of favourable; but no notice was taken of the simple and striking fact, of the difference of condition in the operatives of Manchester and of Dunfermline. In the first, all the evils of a great and crowded city, scarcely possessed of a single open area for the enjoyment of healthful exercise, where out-of-door recreation is unknown, where the positive green of sward or trees is scarcely ever witnessed by the factory "cheil,"

and where all the vices of civilised poverty exist in a very high degree; furnish us with abundant material for explaining that pallidity, stunted growth, precocity, and chronic disease, which are there found accompanying the factory-system, but not necessarily resulting from it, as manifested by the condition of the operatives of Dunfermline, where the concomitant causes of disease do not exist to the same extent, and where, consequently, the factory-system is unattended with the same evils. It is not intended to be adduced from this, that no evils attend upon the factory-system—they are very numerous; but many of these, as especially length of labour and late hours, have been happily diminished; and as for confined air, Dr. Cooke Taylor says very justly, as is also repeated by Dr. Ure, and by M. Villermé in France, that they would be well contented to have as large a proportion of room and air in their own studies as a cotton-spinner in any of the mills of Lancashire. This does not apply to the batters of cotton, whose occupation necessitates the inhalation of much dust and flue; but the great bulk of those employed in the cotton-mills, from the space occupied by the machinery, have more room to work in than at their homes, and a much less vitiated atmosphere to breathe than tailors, milliners, and many other metropolitan employments.

Dr. Ure, a man of extensive practical and scientific acquaintance with the factory-system, both at Glasgow and at Manchester, took up the subject in his *Philosophy of Manufactures*, published in 1835, and went to an extreme in its favour, positively but fallaciously urging its superiority even over rural pursuits. It certainly is, however, the opinion of many practical men, that the warmth and tranquillity of employment are rather favourable to the cure of scrofulous diseases than to their acquirement. This was the opinion of such well-informed men as Drs. Carbutt and Holme of Manchester. Mr. Harrison, the inspecting surgeon appointed for the mills of Preston, reporting upon the health of 1656 individuals, says, "I have not met with a single instance, out of the 1656 children whom I have examined, of deformity that is referable to factory-labour. It must be admitted that factory-children do not present the same blooming robust appearance as is witnessed among children who labour in the open air; but I question if they are not more exempt from acute diseases, and do not, on the whole, suffer less sickness than those who are regarded as having more healthy employments." M. Villermé attributes the pale looks and general languor of the system observable in factory-operatives to the monotony and tediousness of factory-labour: it is, however, more probably to be attributed to want of out-door exercise and recreation. This able reporter also admits the evils frequently attendant upon the high temperature of the rooms for fine spinning; but, in other cases, he says, it gives, especially during winter, a much more agreeable temperature than the operatives enjoy at their own houses.

Dr. Cooke Taylor's letter to the Archbishop of Dublin, and the pamphlet now before us, the results of labours which have already appeared in the *British and Foreign Medical Review*, are among the last works which exhibit the folly and the injustice of the monstrous portraits of mill-work drawn some years ago. We confidently point out Mr. Noble's work to the perusal of all such as are interested in the question, as containing a very fair and reasonable view of the evils which contribute to ill health among the manufacturing classes, and which so often come rather from the great town than the

factory-system, and flow from causes which belong to almost all the pursuits of industry, and to the evils hitherto unseparated from high civilisation rather than essentially to the factory-system. Such, indeed, are the causes of those deteriorations which render it impossible to obtain as many recruits, of the proper strength and stature for military service, from Manchester as from other places. It is well worthy of observation, that while, owing to these various inquiries, the sanatory and moral condition—the last of which is a fertile source of many of the evils attributed hitherto to the system solely—has undergone very great improvement, the special disorders of the great-town system go on ever increasing. The alleged particular evils of the system are all to be found in cities where the factory-system does not exist, and their origin might be sought for without as well as within the factories. It is not as with the chimney-sweeper, in whom a peculiar form of disease results from his labours (sweep's cancer),—there is no particular form of disease peculiar to the factory. The alleged precocious development is part of the great-town mischief. At the meeting of the British Association at Manchester, Mr. Shuttleworth deduced from carefully made numerical statements, that cases of distortion among factory-children are not more frequent than amongst young ladies educated at fashionable boarding-schools. The author of the work before us brings also numerous statistical facts to shew that pulmonary diseases are not more frequent among factory-operatives than among other operatives. With regard to scrofula, we have seen that Drs. Carbutt and Holme consider the mills as rather curative of such a speciality in the habit of the body to modify disease—for it is not a disease itself—than as an aggravation of it; and M. Villermé at once admitted, that manufactures, even in their actual organisation, must not be exclusively blamed for this state of things; the evil is not peculiar to them; it was assuredly not less frequent formerly, in proportion to the existence of other insalubrious conditions, when the manufacturing system had not sprung into existence. In fact, it must be acknowledged that much good has ensued from these inquiries; but we must not, in reviewing the facts connected with the sanatory condition of the working classes of great towns, merge all that appertains to their moral and domestic condition into their modes of employment, for the sole purpose of a factitious philanthropy; and while our sympathies are excited in alleviating the evils that accrue from manufacturing avarice, we may be safely gladdened to the heart by thinking that modern advance in civilisation, with its mechanical improvements and increased means of production, has, whilst enriching the capitalist, trebled and quadrupled the health, and the happiness, and the bodily comforts of the most helpless of our fellow-creatures.

The Penny Cyclopædia. Vol. XXVII. Charles Knight and Co.

ON the title we read "from Wal to Zyg," and *zyg* must be the end of any dictionary in any language. The last words belong to natural history, which delights in terms adapted to fracture the jaws of all who endeavour to pronounce them. But we are not on the subject of Zygophyllaceæ; and have only to congratulate our contemporary on having reached the termination of this great undertaking, which occupies no fewer than 14,000 pages, and in a manner highly creditable to their industry and research. The total expense is stated at 33,000*l.*;

and the list of contributors divulges many names of high eminence in almost every path of arts, literature, and science.

Simmond's Colonial Magazine and Foreign Miscellany reached us too late to enable us to examine the contents; but we observe Mr. Schomburgk's expedition in Guiana, manufactured, with verbal and other slight alterations, from the *Literary Gazette*, No. 1404, without an acknowledgment, which is an act of literary disingenuousness not honourable to our new contemporary. We seldom complain of the weekly and daily use of our original matter almost universally throughout the press, without the slightest reference to the *Gazette*; but it is rather barefaced to transmute us in this fashion, and to such an extent.

Comic Arithmetic. Pp. 177. Lond., R. Bentley. WE do not know but that we are rather inclined to fancy there is too much of this class of production—efforts at wit and humour by the pen and pencil, which are no doubt occasionally amusing enough, but do not answer so well as entire entertainments. As varieties in magazines they appear to be more appropriate and successful than in volumes, where their inequalities are sooner felt, and the miss-fires injure their neighbour good shots in a greater degree. The present work seems to be the performance of several contributors, and put together without much care. In some the labour is more evident than the joke; in others there are too much of triteness and repetition (for it is the evil of plentifulness in such matters that points and subjects get worn out); and the salt which seasons the whole is hardly in sufficient quantity; though there are some laughable hits and ingenious designs. The best to our taste is, "Mutual Assurance," p. 150; too many of the others are but poor and ill-executed. Altogether a tolerable club of wags and draughtsmen might have furnished a more laudable publication.

Comic Album for 1844. A Book for every Table. 4to. W. S. Orr and Co.

ON various-coloured paper, and replete with caricature-prints of every sort, several popular comic writers and draughtsmen have contributed to fill this light production with their fancies and sketches. The junction of animal with human forms seems to be the predominating humour; but there are so many things to occupy attention, that for a table-book to while away a dull or vacant half-hour, tend to provoke conversation, and create a laugh, we can truly speak of the *Comic Album* as a copious and clever, though unequal, holiday performance.

Conversations on Arithmetic. By Mrs. Henry Ayres, authoress of "Addresses to the Young." Pp. 446. London, Souter and Law.

THESE conversations, constructed on the popular plan of familiar *visâ voce* intercourse, convey a competent knowledge of all the arithmetic wanted for the purposes of social life and dealings with figures. And the volume is besides rendered more valuable by a brief history of coinage, a table of ancient weights and measures, and other useful appendages. We can truly commend the book either for schools or for family teaching.

The Farmer's Daughter. By Mrs. Cameron. Pp. 186. Houlston and Stoneman.

WE prefer the intent to the execution of this little tale. There is much in inculcating its morals which may tend to counteract the lessons.

ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE.

EGYPT.

Cairo, Dec. 17, 1843.

MY DEAR SIR,—Dr. Lepsius and his party were at Korosko, a town in Nubia, between the first and second cataracts, on the 15th of last month, all well and in good spirits. Our communications become less and less frequent, and I presume will cease altogether when they get beyond the second cataract. They intend to follow the course of the river to Kartoum, except the space between Wady Halfa and Dongola, which will be performed on camels, occasionally, unavoidably, leaving its banks.

Korosko, I should have mentioned, is a station from whence those who wish to arrive at Kartoum by the shortest road strike out into the desert, and arrive at the Nile again at a place called Abu Hammed: it is a journey of nine days; water, not potable but for camels, about half way—except perhaps at this season if rain has fallen. By this road has proceeded the new governor of the pashalik,* whose name is also Akhmed. The pasha Mohammed Ali has divided the pashalik into three portions, I have understood: experience has taught him it was too great a temptation for one.

We have had more rain than usual in Cairo; the streets have been impassable: there are no such things as drains, and the narrowness of the streets retains for long after the unwholesome exhalations, which I presume is the cause of a good deal of sickness at this season. Plague is expected earlier in consequence; as yet, however, I have not heard of any case in Cairo, although it is said to be in some of the towns in the delta.

The pasha is at Mimch, a town on the western bank of the Nile, between Siour and the metropolis. He has been as high as Esneh, whither he went, accompanied by M. Linant, on some project of irrigation. It is said that he will return to Cairo in a few days. There is no political news. The steamer his highness sent as a present to the sultan has arrived; and it is said that the sultan ordered some of the rich silk hangings to be removed to the seraglio.—Yours very truly, J. BONOMI.

PIGMIES.

To the Editor of the *Literary Gazette*.

January 3d, 1844.

SIR,—In a recent number of your journal M. d'Abbadie's statement is quoted, describing the people of Doko as "very large and muscular." The assertion of their being pigmies is also discredited by Dr. Beke, a competent judge, and on apparently good grounds; for it is singular, if these pigmies were human, that they should not have been met with by some one of the European travellers; and their existence rests on the mere hearsay of the African slave Dilbo.

But what is the meaning of the word *Doko* in the country itself? and what is the language of that country? for in several leading African tongues, as well as Asiatic, the word *Doko* signifies *Pigmy*.—I am, sir, yours faithfully, B. E. FOTE.

ARTS AND SCIENCES.

CORRELATION OF PHYSICAL FORCES.

In the *Lit. Gaz.* No. 1400, we gave a short notice of the first of a series of lectures to be delivered by Mr. Grove on the above subject. The course is now finished; and instead of reporting each lecture separately, we have preferred wait-

* Pashalik is a Turkish word, compounded of *pasha* and *lik*, which signifies a province or district.

ing to the present time, thinking that a general abstract of the ideas and principles put forward by Mr. Grove would be more interesting than separate notices, and (from the impossibility of describing in our limited space the illustrations and experimental proofs adduced) more practicable.

The object of this course was to shew the connexion which exists between the various active properties of matter; between powers which have at various times been called by different names, but which, having no independent existence, can only be made known by their effects upon ponderable matter. These affections were included under the following six, viz.: motion, chemical affinity, heat, light, electricity, and magnetism. All these, except the first, have been frequently regarded as being themselves material, as being imponderable fluids, or vibrations of an imponderable fluid. Without here touching upon the difficult physico-metaphysical question, whether matter can be conceived as existing without weight, a question which has formed a ground of much discussion among philosophers, Mr. Grove thinks it will be conceded that there are but three methods of mentally regarding the imponderable agents.

1st, They may be viewed as specific fluids, having all the qualities of matter except weight (or this, perhaps, in an indefinitely small degree), and pervading ponderable matter.

2dly, They may be regarded as vibrations of a specific fluid, or ether; the difference in character resulting from the difference of the vibrations, and not from difference of fluids.

3dly, They may all be regarded as different forms or modes of motion affecting ordinary matter.

Under one of these three categories all the imponderable agents must be classed. Mr. Grove seemed rather inclined to the latter theory.* The principal objections to it were stated to be derived from the necessity it involves of an universal plenum, or rather the impossibility of a vacuum. Experiment, indeed, shews us no instance of a perfect vacuum; but this question need not be entered upon, as the object was not to express a decided opinion on these hypotheses, but rather to shew the experimental relations of the above affections independently of hypothesis; to shew that each is capable of producing the other, and can be again reproduced from it. Thus motion will produce heat, light, electricity, chemical affinity, magnetism; heat will produce motion, light, electricity, chemical affinity, magnetism; and so of the rest.

There is no inconsiderable difficulty in enunciating the propositions sought to be proved in these lectures, on account of the imperfection of scientific language; an imperfection unavoidable it is true, but not the less embarrassing. Thus the words light, heat, electricity, magnetism, are constantly used in two senses, viz. that of the force producing and of the effect produced. The word motion, indeed, is only applied to the effect and not to the force, and chemical affinity is generally applied to the force and not to the effect; but the other four terms are applied indiscriminately to both. This was premised in order to explain a certain degree of confusion which must unavoidably result when treating of these mysterious phenomenal relations, and to endeavour as much as possible to distinguish ideas from words.

* We have so recently expressed a decided opinion on imponderable agency, that we need scarcely repeat here our inclination to the hypothesis contained in the second category.—Ed. L. G.

The term "correlation," which was chosen as the title of these lectures, strictly interpreted, means a necessary mutual or reciprocal dependence of two ideas inseparable even in mental conception: thus, the idea of height cannot exist without involving the idea of its correlate depth—the idea of parent cannot exist without involving the idea of offspring. It has not been much used by writers on physics: but there are a vast variety of physical relations to which, if it does not in its strictest original sense apply, cannot certainly be so well expressed by any other term. There are, for example, many facts, one of which cannot take place without involving the other—one leg of a lever cannot be depressed without the other end being elevated—the finger cannot press the table without the table pressing it, &c. &c. If, therefore, in using this term to express the relation of different phenomena detailed in these lectures, deviation is made from its usual sense, there is nothing inconsistent with its etymon; and at all events there is no other term which so well conveys the intended meaning.

We may undoubtedly, instead of regarding the above expressions as defining different affections of matter, or forces, regard them as different conventional divisions of force. The phenomenon of attraction and repulsion by amber, which originated the term *electricity*, is as unlike the decomposition of water by the voltaic pile as any two natural phenomena can well be. It is only because the historical sequence of scientific discoveries has associated them by a number of intermediate links that they are classed under the same category. What is called voltaic electricity might equally, perhaps more appropriately, be called voltaic chemistry; but were we to depart from a nomenclature generally adopted, inevitable confusion would result, and probably objections equally valid would be found to apply to our new terminology. The want, however, of any absolute connexion between the forces or modes of force and the names applied to them, is a fair argument that, the divisions being conventional and having no existence in fact, the phenomena to which various names are applied are all modifications of one force,—the view of the unity of force would necessarily lead us to reject secondary causation, and regard and retain our terms as supplying only conventional names for its various modifications.

Motion is the most obvious, the most distinctly conceived, of all the affections of matter. Whether it be that, on account of our familiarity with motion, we refer other affections to it as to a language which is most easily construed; whether it be that it is in reality the only mode in which all material force is rendered evident; or whether it be that it is the mode in which our minds, as contradistinguished from our senses, are able to conceive material agencies; certain it is, that all hypotheses hitherto framed to account for the varied phenomena of nature have resolved them into motion. In vain has the mind hitherto sought to comprehend, or the tongue to explain, natural agencies by other means than by motion.

Take, as an example, light regarded under either of the hypotheses above given. One of these supposes light to be a highly rare matter emitted from—i. e. put in motion by—luminous bodies. A second supposes that the matter is not emitted from luminous bodies, but that it is put into a state of vibration or undulation by them; and this second view might be subdivided, and light regarded either as an undulation of a specific matter, *sui generis*, or of ordi-

nary matter, and propagated by undulations of air, glass, &c., as sound by vibrations of wood, or waves by the movement of water. In all these hypotheses, matter and motion are the only conceptions: we in vain struggle to escape from these ideas; if we ever do so, our mental powers must undergo a change, of which at present we see no prospect. Not to discuss the question of the realists or idealists—viz. the schools which suppose that mental conceptions are the true test of the realities of existence, or those which suppose mental conceptions are inductive derivatives from experience,—neither theory would alter the positions sought to be established, or change the relations of facts which in these lectures were experimentally examined.

Can motion produce heat, light, electricity, magnetism, and chemical affinity? To prove that immediately or mediately it can, was the object of the first lecture.

Let us suppose a body set in motion,—say a ball projected into the air,—it is obvious that it communicates a great part of its motion to the air, throwing it into a state of undulation; and, in doing so, it loses a certain amount of the initial force; but though the ball loses this, and ultimately stops, still the air moves on, the force is not annihilated, but merely dissipated or continually subdivided. From the elastic and yielding nature of the air, there is very little friction; there is, indeed, a little—each particle of air rubs against the moving body, but, being easily displaced, the friction is scarcely apparent. Let us now take two solid bodies, and place them, as nearly as circumstances will permit, in the same condition as the ball and the air,—i. e. let one communicate the whole, or nearly the whole, of its motion to the other. Suppose two discs of wood or metal, each capable of revolving round central points, and touching each other at the circumference, it will be obvious that if we apply force to the one so as to cause a rapid motion round its centre, the other will move in the opposite direction. Now, let us do that which, in consequence of the mobility of its particles, we could not do in the case of air—let us stop one of the wheels; the moving one will rub violently against the circumference of the stationary one—the velocity of the motion of the former will be diminished, and what will result? *Heat*, and in direct proportion to the diminution of motion: if the circumference be oiled, the motion will be more rapid, the heat less; if the circumference be dry and rough, the motion will be less, the heat greater: thus, supposing the initial force uniform, this force will render itself evident either by motion or heat, and in inverse proportions. If motion be suddenly arrested, as in the case of percussion, the heat at the point of contact is intense. Thus we get a direct conversion of motion into heat, a distinct proportional relationship, shewing that where force is not carried off or continued in one form, it renders itself evident in another. In the second example chosen above, it is supposed that the bodies moving past each other, or impeding each other's motion, were similar, i. e. were both wood, both metal, or rather both of the same wood, or of the same metal; but let one be wood and the other metal, or let them be of different sorts of wood, or different sorts of metal, and another force, or mode of force, results from their movement, viz. *electricity*. No two dissimilar bodies can be rubbed against each other without producing electricity. This was shewn by rubbing two dissimilar metals together, and affecting a galvanometer; by rubbing two pieces of paper to-

gether, and affecting an electroscope, &c. In these cases there is generally heat produced as well as electricity; but the more there is of one, the less there is of the other mode of force:—thus the ordinary glass plate or cylinder of an electrical machine with its soft metallic amalgams produces a notable development of electricity, but little heat; rub powdered glass between two hard metals, and much heat will be produced, but little electricity.

Having developed electricity by means of motion, we very simply by its means evolve every other character of force. Thus in the electric spark we get *light*, which indeed we might have produced directly by friction. We get *chemical affinity*, as shewn by passing a current of electricity from an ordinary machine across a stratum of iodide of potassium, the experiment being sure of success if an imperfect conductor, such as a wet string, be interposed in the circuit. We get magnetism by passing a similar current through a galvanometer. All these, and experiments might be indefinitely multiplied, are dependent upon the force which in the first instance produces motion: and though motion may be easily reproduced, as, for instance, in the index of the electroscope, the needle of the galvanometer, yet this can never exceed, never practically equal, the initial motion; were it to do so, we should get a creation of force, or perpetual motion.

Although in the course of lectures, of which this is a very brief abstract, each mode of force was taken as a starting point, and it was experimentally shewn how the others might be deduced from it, yet we need not (in fact it would be impracticable without illustrative diagrams) go through these conversions. Thus starting with electricity, we get, as we have already seen, chemical affinity, light, magnetism, motion, and of course heat is readily obtained in a variety of ways; the spark will fire spirit, the current as it is called will ignite wires, and indeed the most intense degree of heat with which we are acquainted is produced by electricity, as shewn in the voltaic arc.

Starting with magnetism, we immediately get electricity, and mediately all the other forms of force. Starting with chemical affinity, we readily do the same by the effects of the voltaic pile. Starting with heat, we get thermo-electricity and all the derivative effects: here we may also observe, that although we may reproduce heat, we can never reproduce a greater amount than the initial heat.

The experiment by which it was sought to be proved that light might be used as a starting point or initial force, it may, perhaps, be worth while here to relate:—

A prepared daguerreotype plate is enclosed in a box filled with water, having a glass front, with a shutter over it; between this glass and prepared plate is a gridiron of silver wire; the plate is connected with one extremity of a galvanometer coil, and the gridiron of wire with the other extremity, the needle being brought to zero. As soon as a beam of either daylight or the oxyhydrogen-light is thrown upon the plate by raising the shutter, the needle is deflected: thus we get *chemical action* on the plate, *electricity* circulating through the wires, *magnetism* in the coil, and *motion* in the galvanometer needle; and by using a Breguer's helix we might get *heat*.

This experiment it is the more necessary to mention, as it might be excepted to for the following reasons: the recent experiments of Draper tend to prove that the chemical effects in the daguerreotype are produced, not by light

itself, but by a peculiar force accompanying light, which Dr. Draper has called *tithonicity*; Herschel, indeed, does not recognise this distinction; but until these points be thoroughly resolved, and the relation of this peculiar force (if it exist) to light be established, the question of light initiating the other forces must be left in abeyance. We must multiply facts much more before the distinct relation of light to the other forces will be established; the science of photography, however, affords us a very decided indication of how light may act in developing the material agencies.

If we pursue any of the above train of forces backwards, in order to seek a primary or initial force, we shall find ourselves in a somewhat embarrassing dilemma. If heat, light, electricity, magnetism, chemical affinity, motion, be each capable of producing the others, we cannot, it is obvious, say, abstractedly and without reference to any special phenomena, that either of them is cause; and if we take any example and trace it backwards, we may go on through an infinity of changing forms of force. Thus, to take our first example and recede backwards: the spark or light is produced by electricity, electricity by motion, and motion is produced by something else, say a steam-engine—that is by heat; this heat is produced by chemical affinity, *i. e.* the affinity of the carbon of the coal for the oxygen of the air; this carbon and this oxygen have been previously eliminated by actions difficult to trace, but of the pre-existence of which we cannot doubt, and in which actions we should find the conjoint and alternating effects of heat, light, chemical affinity, &c. Any attempt, then, to seek an absolute essence or primary source of power must, as far as the present constitution of our minds will permit us to judge, be unsuccessful: the old aim of philosophers, which, indeed, Bacon seems not to have abandoned, viz. to study effects so as to arrive at their absolute causes, a more refined but more humble judgment teaches us to be futile. We speak the language of humility when we assert our belief that the proper objects of physical research are, 1st, phenomena, whether normal, as deduced from observation, or abnormal, as elicited by experiment. 2dly, their mutual relations; and 3dly, the most simple expression of these relations, that is, their laws.

How far distant the day may be when a mathematical theory of force and resistance can be applied to each of these forces, or modes of force, when affected by the others, it would be perhaps rash to prophesy. There is, in Mr. Grove's opinion, reasonable ground for hoping that such period is rapidly approaching.

GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.

Jan. 8.—Mr. Murchison, president, in the chair. The secretary read an account of the island of Hongkong, by Mr. A. R. Johnston. This island, it appears, is small, being only from four to five miles wide: it is traversed by a range of hills, from 500 to upwards of 1000 feet high, chiefly granitic; the soil is decomposed granite: there is abundance of good water at all times of the year. There are about 1500 mows of land (of 1000 square yards each) under cultivation, chiefly rice. A quantity of fish is also cured at the village of Chik-choo. The animals are deer, armadillo, land-tortoise, and snakes, not known to be venomous. The vegetable productions are mangoes, lichees, langans, oranges, pears, rice, sweet potatoes, yams, and a small quantity of flax. The climate is not essentially different from that of Macao. The most prevalent diseases are intermittent and remittent fevers; and dysentery is common

throughout the year, particularly after sudden changes of weather. The natives suffer from these complaints as well as Europeans.

The paper being concluded, a very interesting discussion ensued on the asserted unhealthiness of the island, and the probability of this disadvantage being confined to particular spots; and much curious information on climate generally, and on the anomalies exhibited by malaria in different parts of the world, was communicated by the several speakers: among whom were the president, Mr. W. R. Hamilton, Mr. Warburton, Mr. Wheelwright, Dr. Thompson, Mr. Cumming, Mr. Gowen, Mr. Bell, the secretary, &c.

A paper by Lieut. Christopher, of the Indian navy, on that gentleman's explorations in N.E. Africa, where he has discovered a new and important river, was begun; but the lateness of the hour precluded its termination: it will therefore be resumed at the ensuing meeting.

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

Jan. 3.—Mr. Warburton, president, in the chair. The following papers were read:—1. "On the occurrence of the genus *Physeter* (or sperm-whale) in the redcrag of Felixstow," by Mr. Charlesworth. In the collection of Mr. Brown of Stanway is a remarkable fossil, which Prof. Owen proved to be the tooth of a cachalot, and, in the Report of the British Association for 1842, states to have been procured from the diluvium of Essex. Mr. Charlesworth having examined the specimen in question, considers it a genuine crag-fossil from the same deposit with the cetacean remains described by Prof. Henslow at a previous meeting.—2. "On a fossil forest in the Parkfield colliery, near Wolverhampton," by Mr. H. Beckett. The author, in a letter to Mr. Hill, president of the Wolverhampton branch of the Dudley and Midland Geological Society, announces the discovery of a remarkable assemblage of stumps of fossil trees in the Parkfield colliery, all upright, and evidently *in situ*. There are two fossil forests, the one above the other. In the upper, Mr. Beckett counted 73 trees in about a quarter of an acre; and in the lower they appear to be equally numerous.—3. "On the remains of fossil dicotyledonous trees in an outcrop of the bottom coal at Parkfield colliery," by W. Ick, Ph.D. This paper relates to the same locality with the last, and gives numerous details of the state of the fossil forest, and its geological relations and accompanying fossils. Dr. Ick describes three distinct beds of coal, each exhibiting on its surface the remains of a forest, all included in an assemblage of strata not more than 12 feet in thickness. He considers the trees to have been mostly coniferous, and concludes that they grew on the spot where they are now found.—4. "On a fossil tree found in the coal-grit near Darlaston, South Staffordshire," by Mr. J. A. Dawes. This remarkable fossil, though not entire, is 39 feet in length, and its greatest breadth not more than 20 inches: the wood is coniferous.—5. "On the trap-rock of Bleadon Hill in Somersetshire," by the Rev. D. Williams. In consequence of some remarkable facts disclosed by the railway-cutting through Bleadon Hill, the author's views respecting the origin of trap and other aggregate rocks, advanced in former papers, have undergone a material change. In this paper he details the phenomena which lead him, among other conclusions, to maintain that the lime-rocks in the instances under consideration have been reduced *in situ* by tranquil fusion, and subsequently converted into the trap which now replaces them. The extent and variety of the

subjects embraced in this memoir do not admit of a short notice.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.

Jan. 9th. (First meeting of the season.)—The president in the chair. During the recess several alterations and improvements in the rooms, and in regard to lighting and ventilation, adding to the accommodation and comforts of the members, have been effected. Read, 1st, a paper, by Mr. J. Storey, describing a combination of cast and wrought iron used in some bridges on the line of the Bishop Auckland and Weardale Railway. A general review of the usual construction and expense of occupation bridges of brick, stone, timber, and cast iron, was given, shewing their defects. In order to obviate these objections, the author has introduced combined trussed beams of cast and wrought iron, which, he contended, might be advantageously adopted, and that bridges could be thus constructed at a less cost than those of stone, brick, or even of timber. The structure described consisted of longitudinal segmental girders of cast iron, resting on masonry abutments: a system of wrought iron tie trussing was applied, and struts were placed, where requisite, to receive the pressure; when more than one principal truss was necessary, they were connected by transverse braces and distance-pieces of cast iron; sockets being cast upon the girders to receive the timber joists, upon which Dantzic timber planking was spiked. The communication was accompanied by five illustrative drawings and estimates of comparative expense.

2. "Description of a cast-iron bridge over the Avon, near Tewkesbury, on the line of the Birmingham and Gloucester Railway," by Capt. W. S. Moorsom. The principal novelty of this work, which was proposed and its execution superintended by Mr. Ward of Falmouth, is the mode of constructing the two piers, which were externally of cast iron in the form of caissons, each weighing about 28 tons; the plates composing each caisson were put together on a platform erected upon piles over the site of the pier; the bottom of the river being levelled by a scoop-dredger, the caisson was lowered, and some clay being thrown around the exterior, a joint was formed, so nearly water-tight that two small pumps drained it in six hours. The foundation being then excavated to the requisite depth, the caisson, which sank as the excavation proceeded, was filled with concrete and masonry; cap-plates were next fixed for supporting eight pillars with an entablature, to which was attached one end of the segmental arches, 57 feet span, with a versed sine of 5 feet 2 inches. There were three of these arches, each formed of six ribs of cast iron and two such piers as have been described; the land-abutments being of stonework joining the embankment of the railway. It was stated that this mode of construction was found to be more economical in that peculiar situation than the usual method of fixing timber coffer-dams and building the piers within them; the total cost of the bridge being only 10,192*l.*; and the navigation of the river was not interrupted during the progress of the work. The paper was illustrated by eighteen remarkably well-executed drawings by Mr. Butterton.

3. A paper, by Mr. G. W. Hemans, descriptive of a wrought-iron lattice-bridge erected across the line of the Dublin and Drogheda Railway was then read. This bridge, which in construction is similar to the wooden lattice-bridges of America, only substituting wrought

iron for timber, is situated about three miles from Dublin, over an excavation of 36 feet in depth; its span is 84 feet in the clear, and the two lattice-beams are set parallel to each other, resting at either end on plain stone abutments built in the slope. These beams are 10 feet in depth, and are formed by a series of flat iron bars $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide by $\frac{3}{4}$ inch thick, crossing one another at an angle of 45° ; at 5 feet 6 inches above the bottom edge transverse bearers of angle iron are fixed, similar to those now used for supporting the decks of iron steam-vessels, and upon these the planking for the roadway is fastened. The account of the mode of construction, and of the raising and fixing the lattice-beams, by Messrs. Perry of Dublin, the contractors, was given in detail; and the author stated, that although it was expected that considerable deflection would occur, which was provided for by forming the beams with a curve of 12 inches in the centre, they did not sink at all, even when heavy weights passed over them. The total cost of the structure, including the masonry of the abutments, was 510*l.*

LITERARY AND LEARNED.

UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.

The Hulsean Prize for 1843, for "the best dissertation in the English language on the evidence in general, or on the prophecies or miracles in particular, or on any other particular argument, whether the same be direct or collateral proofs of the Christian religion, in order to evince its truth and excellence," subject, "The obligation of the Sabbath, with a history of the institution and its influence from the earliest times to the present day," was adjudged to C. J. Ellicott, B.A. (1841), of St. John's College.—The Trustees of the prize have given notice that a premium of about 100*l.* will this year be given for the best dissertation on the following subject: "The lawfulness and obligation of oaths in a Christian community, and the influence which they have had upon society at different periods."—*Camb. Chron.*
The Seatonian Prize Poem.—Subject of the poem for the present year is "Esther."

ASIATIC SOCIETY.

Jan. 6.—Prof. H. H. Wilson in the chair. Mr. J. Fergusson continued the reading of an interesting paper "On the cave-temples of India," which will be concluded at another meeting. At the close of the proceedings it was suggested by the director of the society, that some efforts might very properly be made to preserve the interesting remains of antiquity just described from the dilapidations and destructions they were rapidly undergoing; and that it might be a consideration with the members of the society whether they should not at a subsequent meeting request the attention of the Indian authorities to the subject. The suggestion was received with marked approbation by all the members present.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.

The last meetings of the society, which preceded the Christmas recess, presented no very interesting features, and were hardly of sufficient importance to justify a report in our columns at the time. We hope that the new year will usher in a season of greater antiquarian activity; of which, on the part of the society, some promise has already been given, we understand, by the determination to publish a monthly bulletin of the society's proceedings. As a *résumé* of the transactions of the month of December, we may state that on Dec. 7, Lord Mahon in the chair, Mr. Akerman gave an account of some Roman remains discovered at Roundway Down, near Devizes; Mr. Birch communicated some observations on an Etruscan vase in the British Museum; and Sir H.

Ellis read an order of the Privy Council, for raising soldiers in Sussex, dated in 1600.—Dec. 14, Mr. Hamilton in the chair, Mr. J. Allies, of Worcester, communicated an account of some antiquarian discoveries in that county; Mr. Philip Howard, of Corby, sent an account of the recent opening of the tombs of the Howards in Framlingham church; Mr. S. Martin, the account of the discovery of a sepulchral urn in Lancashire; and Mr. G. Stevens, an English version of the Anglo-Saxon poem on the Phoenix.—On Dec. 21, Mr. Hamilton in the chair, Mr. Roach Smith communicated an interesting account of Roman sepulchral remains lately found near Boulogne; and Mr. Way exhibited an ancient mazar, or wooden drinking-cup.

Jan. 10.—Mr. Hallam in the chair. Several drawings, &c. of articles of antiquity were exhibited; among the rest, a rubbing of fine foreign monumental brass, by the director Mr. Albert Way; casts of a medal and seal, by Mr. Doubleday of the British Museum; and two coloured drawings, executed by Mr. W. Beak, of Roman tessellated pavements, the one preserved in the park of Earl Bathurst, the other in the garden of Mr. Brewin of Cirencester. Mr. Akerman communicated a note in illustration of a representation of the head of St. John the Baptist on a leaden brooch or ornament found at Abbeville; he noticed the analogy between the figure of the head and that on the coins of King John, and gave instances of the veneration in which the head of the saint was held in the middle ages. Sir H. Ellis read a very interesting report of the seizure and examination of a Jesuit under the disguise of a Puritan in the reign of Elizabeth, singularly illustrative of the Machiavellic doctrines and practices of that order, and the activity of the Jesuit missionaries in England at that time. He then concluded the reading of the translation of the Anglo-Saxon poem on the Phoenix, by Mr. Stevens, and of a description, by the same gentleman, of an English medical manuscript, apparently of the end of the fourteenth century, preserved at Stockholm.

LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS FOR

THE ENSUING WEEK:—

Monday.—Statistical, 8 P.M.; Chemical, 8 P.M.; Medical, 8 P.M.
Tuesday.—Linnæan, 8 P.M.; Horticultural, 3 P.M.; Civil Engineers (anniversary meeting), 8 P.M.; Medical-Botanical (anniversary meeting), 8 P.M.
Wednesday.—Society of Arts, 8 P.M.; Geological, 8 P.M.; London Institution, 7 P.M.; Microscopical, 8 P.M.
Thursday.—Royal, 8½ P.M.; Antiquaries, 8 P.M.
Friday.—Royal Institution, 8½ P.M.
Saturday.—Asiatic, 2 P.M.; Westminster Medical, 8 P.M.

FINE ARTS.

In our notices of the Fine Arts in last *Literary Gazette* we copied from the "Daily press" (and quoted our authority) a paragraph, announcing that the statue of Sir A. Cooper was "receiving its finish," and would be removed to St. Paul's Cathedral in a few days: we are informed that this is not the case, and that, with the best exertions, the work can hardly be completed in time for the annual exhibition.

Sir D. Wilkie's Statue.—The flooring of the National Gallery having been propped up sufficiently to sustain a weight of some four tons, this statue has been erected in the lobby, opposite the stick and umbrella keepers, at the bottom of the stairs leading to the gallery—a place well chosen for public notice, and, considering the dispositions of this miserable building, about as good as could have been chosen for light and effect. On entering, the figure and face strike

you in profile, and the latter being turned the other way, gives at first sight an unfavourable impression of the features. On going forward and viewing the full countenance it is better—a likeness, but not a striking likeness, to Wilkie; being all too youthful and refined. It wants his national Scottish breadth, and appears to us like a pretty Wilkie we could have imagined as a boy. If we were to say the statue was a bad one, we should be saying that which was opposite to our opinion; but we confess that for individuality, character, and composition, it does not satisfy us, whatever it may do with the world at large. There is, with the aim at simplicity, a want of that grand quality; and the pictorial seems to have usurped the attributes of the true and classic. The great breadth of light in front will convey to artists and connoisseurs what we mean by this remark; who will also feel that an uncalculated-for depth is thus given to the shadows below, and that we have consequently the anatomy of the limbs more exaggerated than they would otherwise have been; which is, to say the least of it, unnecessary. Anatomically speaking, we consider the violent action of the left hand to be an error, when the rest of the figure is in such complete repose; and surely neither the pectoral, deltoid, nor sartorius muscles are well managed: the latter look as if cut away, and the breast on the side exposed is more feminine than masculine, more like that of a Prussian soldier in his uniform than of the manly Caledonian. Neither do we praise the drapery. The Scotch plaid in its common and daily use is one of the most graceful garbs that can be seen.* Here it is thrown over the shoulder without character or form, and carried in a slovenly manner down the back to the pedestal to support the statue in a meagre and unartist-like contrivance.

As the first honour of the kind erected in the National Gallery (a gallery from the infliction of which the *Lit. Gaz.* laboured in vain to save the capital), we have felt bound to state these our genuine critical opinions of the details of this public monument; but at the same time we ought to declare, that a more pure and beautiful piece of marble never rewarded a sculptor's labour, that there is a delightfully warm tone in the design, and that the very pictorial effect, to which we have objected as inconsistent with a higher gusto, is nevertheless exceedingly pleasing, and likely to make the statue very popular.

Having frankly and honestly offered our own view of this work, and being sensible that much difference will exist in all such matters of taste, we take the liberty of adding the opinion of a justly celebrated artist and high authority (though conflicting with ours), which we received as a remonstrance to the rather premature notice on report which we inserted in our last No.

"The statue of Wilkie is the work of an artist of no ordinary genius—a man who is well able to think out the whole bearings of any commission entrusted to him. Of his power over character, his beautiful statue of Wilberforce, in Westminster Abbey, is sufficient proof, as well as the many expressive busts which are constantly issuing from his chisel (the heads of Miss Allison of Edinburgh, and one of Lady Charlotte Bury's lovely daughters, standing foremost on the list). He was gold medalist of his year at the Royal Academy; and was especially esteemed by Chantrey, as many existing letters of the deceased sculptor sufficiently

attest. On these grounds, then, let me entreat you to go and see the statue, and judge for yourself. Mr. Joseph has represented Sir D. Wilkie in the action which implies reflection. He is thinking of his subject. The portrayer grasped in his right hand shews the thought will forthwith be embodied. He is out of doors, and therefore consistently wrapped round with the plaid of his country, which falls in grand folds over his manly figure. The head is strikingly like; and the whole has an air of simplicity, as consistent with the character of the man as it is essential to the dignity of sculpture."

So it is that doctors may differ; and we shall only add, that if propriety allowed us to give the name of our esteemed correspondent, it would far outweigh any strictures of ours.

Statue of George IV.—The equestrian statue of George IV. by the late Sir Francis Chantrey, and intended for the arch in front of Buckingham Palace, has been consigned (as we mentioned in a former *Gazette*) to the north-east corner of Trafalgar Square: and we have read some of the leading newspaper comments upon it with amazement. The *Spectator*, so strong-headed on many questions, is, to our mind, exceedingly prejudiced in its opinions of art, and yet is quoted, on this subject, in such a journal as the *Times*, as if in accordance with its judgment! We never, to our knowledge, and as far as our comprehension goes, read a panegyric more forced, false, and absurd: the most obvious faults of the design seem to be chosen for the wildest praise. But it is not our habit to fight with our contemporaries: and we shall therefore simply state our notions of this group as diametrically opposite to those of the *Spectator*, which we have fairly named, as a fact rather than a challenge, being well aware of the abilities of the editor of that journal. It is said that the work is worthy of Chantrey and an ornament to the metropolis; we think it unworthy of an Italian plaster-boy, and an ornament to no situation. The bust of the king, like most of Chantrey's busts, is excellent—he was the foremost bust-maker in the world, the master of portraiture in clay and marble. Beyond this the whole is a sad failure. The horse is a nondescript, and belongs to no species of quadruped that has ever existed, even in tradition. It is a heavy charger in front, and a racer behind; cut in two by a king without a saddle or stirrups, and forming a sort of triple centaur altogether fabulous. The rider has to be thankful that he is allowed a bridle. Our friend of the *Spectator* says: "The drapery is that conventional compromise between modern and classic costume by means of which Sir Francis Chantrey got rid of the difficulty of treating our ugly and unpicturesque dress; a mantle covers the upper part of the figure, on which it hangs in light and graceful folds, that sufficiently express the form beneath; and the lower limbs are clothed in a sort of stocking-pantaloons. The thin and close covering of the legs gives them a naked and unfinished appearance, which is increased by the absence of stirrups; one might fancy that the boots had been carried away, and the stirrups removed for the purpose of pulling the boots off." We confess we are not sure whether or not this is censure in disguise; but the compromising trick of getting rid of the actual representation of unpicturesque costume, &c., by making the monarch look exactly as if he had escaped from his bedroom in his night-dress, and leapt on the bare back of a beast only resembling a horse more than any other animal, appears to us to be rather a severe satire upon so

perb an ornament to the metropolis. Chantrey's genius lay another way: he knew nothing, nothing at all, of the horse; and it was a pity, regretted by his best friends, that he ever meddled with one. This exhibition is a most disagreeable proof that their regrets were but too well founded, and that another creditable object has, somehow or other, been got to disfigure the British capital, which not the name of a sculptor most eminent in other respects and another line can force to pass as even a respectable production of art.

SKETCHES OF SOCIETY.

EXTRAORDINARY MEETING.

THE most extraordinary matter, however, about the meeting is, that none of the newspapers, with all their activity in hunting up intelligence, should have taken the slightest notice of it, and thus have left it for one of the casual reporters on the *Literary Gazette*.

Taking advantage of the holidays, it seems, the young gentlemen—who, at such seasons, almost push us from the pavement, as well as from our stools—seized the opportunity of their being congregated in London to call together a meeting on scholastic business of considerable interest to their body at large. At the appointed hour Freemasons' Hall was tolerably crowded with boys from the age of eight upwards to sprouting adolescence. After some discussion, the senior representative of Eton was called to the chair; and he briefly stated the subject which had brought them together to be, the right of schoolboys to elect their masters, and adopt such other measures as might be found requisite in consequence of and connexion with that constitutional change.

The debate was opened by the Rep. of Westminster, who observed that, since reform was carried into every other division or branch of society, it was impossible not to see that it was absolutely demanded in that branch which so essentially affected the welfare of all the rest—namely, in the education of youth (*cheering*). For his part, he was astonished that things could have gone on so long as they had done. Here was an absolute despotism established, and aided by a penal code of inflexible severity, trenching on the liberties, fingers, and skin of every boy living, and reducing them to a fearful state of servitude and slavery; and yet they were not allowed a voice or a vote on the occasion (*hear, hear*). Such treatment might do for young Turks, but not for the free-born sons of Albion. He therefore moved the first resolution—"That natural equality and common justice render it not only expedient, but indispensable, that schoolboys should enjoy the right of electing their own masters."

The Rep. of Harrow seconded the resolution. In his opinion they had borne their injuries till they could bear them no more. Owing to the supineness which accompanied the tyranny of their masters, very disgraceful scenes had recently taken place at the seminary which he patronised; and it was only by coming to the determination proposed by the honourable boy from Eton that they could prevent the recurrence of similar evils.

The Rep. of Rugby cordially agreed with what had fallen from the preceding speakers. The only flogging he would allow would not be such as was imposed by usurping ushers; but such as independent boys might inflict on one another.

The Rep. of King's College, Somerset House, observed, that though they had lately parted with their Head on the most friendly terms,

* The *Times*' critic calls the drapery a gown or robe.

and accepted another of acknowledged worth and ability, he was nevertheless inclined to go the entire animal embraced in the resolution and in the summons which had brought him thither. He deemed it consistent with the purest conservatism that no one should be instructed against his will, or in any manner inconsistent with his feelings of self-respect and discretion for self-government. All the world were now contending for the right of electing their rulers or teachers. In the state politic, universal suffrage was claimed; in the presbyterian church, parochial voting without external patronage; in Walbrook, open vestry; in the city of London, every resident scavenger; in Ireland, every bog-trotter; and so on throughout every social sphere; and were they alone, the rising boys of England, to be denied this privilege?—forbid it their spirit, forbid it their dignity (*great applause*).

The Rep. of London University entirely concurred with his honourable companion (if he would allow him to call him so) of King's College. Even the casual poor lads in work-houses rebelled against the cruel imposition of self-appointed or man-appointed task-masters; and nothing could be more unbecoming the high station of schoolboys than to submit to that which workhouse children spurned (*cheers*).

The delegate from Hoxton, though a dissenter, and ready to dissent from almost every thing, could not conscientiously dissent from the important proceedings of this day (*hear*). He was all for Election; and considered the non-Elected to be the doomed outcasts of humanity, who ought neither to exercise power, nor even be allowed coal and candle.

The member for Winchester begged to direct the attention to a fact which had not been alluded to, but which he thought to be of vast weight in this discussion. He referred to an ancient custom, according to which on one day in the year the boys of most seminaries took the rule into their own hands, ejected the masters, and had glorious fun; and he appealed to all who had ever taken a share in these stirring proceedings, to declare if they were not among the most joyous days of their lives. The hour for breaking up of the full-grown confederacy which had so cruelly enchained them had now arrived, and he foresaw that these chains would be snapped for ever by an unanimous vote on this illustrious occasion (*great cheering*).

A Big Boy from the body of the hall wished to be informed if another meeting might not with propriety and effect be convened, at which the young ladies of the principal boarding-schools in the vicinity of the metropolis should be invited to take part?

A Little Boy from St. Paul's School thought this unnecessary. It might provoke a collision between the upper and lower forms; and in his opinion it was enough that Young England should assert itself through the indomitable force of its male classes.

Many other orators addressed the chair, and touched upon sundry topics connected with the main question; but our report has extended to sufficient length to shew the *animus* of the whole.

The chairman, in conclusion, remarked that it had been *figuratively* said "the schoolmaster was abroad;" but the gist of the present meeting would be to send him *literally* on his travels. With the teachers of their own choice, and under their own influence and protection, they might go on easily and happily. Birches might be used where they were more wanted, in sweeping the mud-loaded streets of London; and canes might grace their hands as they

walked about these cleansed, instead of being unnaturally applied to other purposes. On these points, as well as on the principal resolution, he trusted they would be unanimous.

All the resolutions being put were carried by acclamation; a committee of Eton, Hoxton, King's College, London University, Reading, and the Little Boy of St. Paul's, appointed to carry the same into effect; and thanks having been given to the president *nemine contradicente*, and suitably acknowledged, the meeting broke up hastily, as many of the members were engaged to go to the pantomimes.

AUNT MARGERY.

If dear Aunt Margery had been continuing to enlighten the public, what a treat the story of German sausages made of dead London calves (brought out at the Clerkenwell Police-office on Saturday) would have been to her! The following are bits of the evidence:

"They seemed to have been not more than two days old when they died: calves' flesh, under such circumstances, is often chopped up for pork sausages, which are packed up in baskets in London, and sent to meet the Epsom, Dorking, and other country-carts, and then brought into the London markets, and sold as having been sent up from these places. I have tasted each of them, and could not make a distinction between a pork and a veal sausage in consequence of the seasoning. It was found that not only were three calves, which had died in calving, or some other 'natural death,' on the premises of the respectable tradesman accused, but that two quarters of beef, which the defendant had told them was for use, appeared to be in a very shocking state, and unfit in any way for human consumption. The only sausages that were made on the premises were German ones, saveloys, and black puddings. The defendant admitted that it looked suspicious, and assured the court that his only object in having the calves on his premises was to skin them, and then send the carcasses to a knacker's—to premises adjoining. He contracted with Mr. Johnson, cattle-jobber, Highgate, for unfit cattle for the market, and he had had the three calves, as well as a live disabled cow, from him on that day. His sausages were neither beef nor pork, but large and small German sausages and black puddings. Mr. Broughton declared the beef to be unfit for the consumption of man, and ordered the officer Cole to see it conveyed to the knacker's."*

THE DRAMA.

Strand Theatre.—If crowded houses be a criterion of attractive pieces, this little theatre produces them, and is consequently advancing in public favour. We have tried twice, vainly, within the week to obtain a seat. The *Hunter's Bride*, with ballad music, composed and sung by Mr. Clement White, and the original Banjo, are the novelties, *Adele* retaining its place as first piece.

The *Lyceum Theatre*, we hear, is about to be opened for the drama; that is to say, for legitimate tragedy and comedy, by a company under the management of Mr. Peake. Of its competency we have as yet no information, but report speaks of a strong amalgamation of town and provinces; at any rate, we are sure of a very experienced and able director in Richard Peake.

* *Aunt Margeryism*.—The best adulterations are by articles having most of the qualities of that which is corrupted, but cheaper—no matter whether deleterious or not—as weight, solubility, colour, &c. &c. We ought to note that the *Globe* newspaper has published a very just and spirited article on this nauseous sausage fraud.—*Ed. L. G.*

Mr. A. Mitchell's Concert.—Independently of the attraction of the names of Miss Rainforth, Miss Dolby, and others, our attention and benevolence were drawn to this first and experimental concert of a deserving musician by the knowledge conveyed to us, that reverse of fortune, and the lamentable privation of a valuable faculty, had compelled him to this walk of life. Mr. Mitchell had studied under able masters, and was admired as an amateur; but embarrassed circumstances on the death of his father, and loss of sight by an accident, induced him to appeal to the public for maintenance in the character of a composer and professor of music. Mr. Mitchell's instrument is the violin; and his command of it was well exhibited in an *obligato* to Pacini's *Summo cielo*, sung by Miss A. Lyons; the air and variations, both instrumental and vocal, were very pleasingly executed. Miss Rainforth was as charming as ever; and Miss Dolby repeated "Bonnie Prince Charlie" to an unanimous encore. The principal ms. production brought forward was an overture in D major, which placed Mr. Mitchell in a very favourable position as a composer; the horns were especially effective. We trust, from the appearance of the "Assembly Rooms," we may say the same in regard to the *débutant* of the Horns at Kennington, where the concert was given.

Music Hall, Store Street.—Mr. H. Phillips' varied entertainment on Thursday evening consisted of popular English, Scotch, Welsh, and Irish songs. Amongst the former, one or two Bacchanalian were given with great spirit, and were warmly applauded; and his much-admired treatment of "The light of other days," introduced by a good anecdote of Malibran, which afforded general amusement, was, as a matter of course, *encored*. The room was well filled; and the audience were dismissed at a reasonable time, shortly after ten o'clock.

VARIETIES.

The Comet now visible a periodic one.—Sir J. South, in a letter to the editor of the *Times*, quotes Prof. Schumacher for the fact that the comet recently discovered by M. Faye in the constellation of Orion actually belongs to our system, and that its period is six years and 219 days. "It is much to be regretted (he adds) that owing to extraordinarily unfavourable weather, which, since its discovery, seems to have pervaded not only Great Britain but even Europe, the observations of it are so few. Since my communication to you published in the *Times* of November 30, I have seen it but once; and in Ireland matters are still worse, for neither the Earl of Rosse nor Dr. Robinson has obtained even a glimpse of it."

Preachership of Lincoln's Inn.—The election yesterday for this office terminated in favour of the Rev. R. Anderson.

Ray Club.—It is contemplated, under this title to institute a society for the promotion of natural history, by printing and circulating among its members original works in zoology and botany, new editions of those of established merit, rare tracts and mss. which throw light on the history of these branches of science, and translations of such foreign works as tend more directly to illustrate the zoology and botany of the British Islands. We believe the scheme originated with Dr. G. Johnston of Berwick on Tweed; and it is expected that it will meet with the general approval and support of naturalists.

Molière's Monument in Paris is to be inaugurated on Monday next.

Chinese Prisoners (see our last two Nos.).—From China we learn that the public officers who were concerned in the barbarous murder of the crews of the Ann and Nerbudda have been handed over to the board of punishments; but it seems to be doubted whether the celestial government is in earnest, and disappointment is expressed at the vagueness of the proclamation.

Misnomer.—By a typographical error of the press in the last *Calcutta Englishman* we received respecting Mr. Bain's telegraph it is printed *Tale-graph*.

LITERARY NOVELTIES.

The Rev. Charles Foster announces a work on the Scriptural and Classical Geography of Arabia. Our readers are probably aware of the recent discovery by the officers of our surveying vessels, on the coast of southern Arabia, of certain Hymnastic inscriptions, facsimiles of which have been given in their published journals. These, we understand, have been deciphered by Mr. Foster, and prove to be of singular interest.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Life and Adventures of Jack of the Mill: a Fireside Story, by Wm. Howitt, 40 Illustrations on Wood, 2 v. fep. 8vo, 15s.—Lessons on Chemistry, by W. H. Balmain, fep. 8vo, 6s.—The Amateur's Drawing-Book, by W. S. Walton, oblong 4to, 12s.—History of Scotland, by P. F. Tytler, Vol. IX. 1887-1893, post 8vo, 6s.—Compendium of the English Flora, by Sir E. Smith, 2d edit. with Additions and Corrections by W. J. Hooker, LL.D., 12mo, 6s.—Two Essays on the Diseases of the Spine, by R. A. Stafford, 8vo, 5s.—Thorn's Irish Almanac and Official Directory for 1844, p-8vo, 6s.—The Accompaniment to the 2d Volume of Gaudin's Knitting and Netting, oblong, 2s. 6d.—Treatise on Clock and Watchmaking, by T. Reid, 3d edit. royal 8vo, 21s.—The Pilgrim's Staff and Christian's Daily Walk, by H. Smith, 2d Series, 12mo, 6s.—The Morning of Life, by a Country Pastor, 18mo, 2s.—Nouveau Mélanges Français, par M. de la Vaye, 12mo, 4s. 6d.—Treatise on the Game of Chess, by W. Lewis, 8vo, 18s.—Griseid: a Dramatic Poem, from the German of F. Halm, 12mo, 4s.—Bourgeois Lyrics, by Florence Wilson, 8vo, 7s. 6d.—Alanson, or the Infidel, edited by Lady Chatterton, 3 vols. post 8vo, 11. 11s. 6d.—Infant-School Spelling-Book and Pictorial Dictionary, by F. Wilby, 12mo, 1s. 6d.—Lectures on Electricity, by H. M. Noad, new edit. 8vo, 14s.—Abbott on Shipping, 7th edit. by Sergeant Snee, 8vo, 11. 11s. 6d.—The Eglington Tournament, from Sketches made by Sir H. Nixon, roy. fol. 5s. plain; 6s. 6d. tinted; 10s. 10s. coloured.—Martin's Conveyancing, by C. Davidson, complete in 5 vols. roy. 8vo, 71s.—The Comic Album for 1844, 4to, 12s.—Comic Nursery Tales: Cinderella and Tom Thumb, 2s. 6d.—Ditto: Pass in Boots and Hop o' my Thumb, 2s. 6d.—Ireland before and after the Union, by R. M. Martin, 8vo, 10s. 6d.—Dr. J. R. Cormack on the Epidemic Fever now prevailing in Edinburgh, 8vo, 5s. 6d.—On the Nature and Treatment of the Douloureux, &c., by H. Hunt, M.D., 8vo, 6s.—Glossology, or Diagnosis of Diseases, by B. Ridge, M.D., 8vo, 4s. 6d.—Christian's Family Library: the Promised Glory of the Church of Christ, by the Rev. E. Bickerstaff, fep. 8vo, 5s.—Rev. T. Raven's Family Prayers, 2d edit. with Essay by the Rev. T. Dale, fep. 3s. 6d.—Johnson's Elements of Agricultural Chemistry, new edit. fep. 4s.—Comstock's Natural Philosophy revised, by G. Lees, 24mo, 4s. 6d.—Notes on Natural History, by A. Pritchard, 12mo, 5s.—Trachinomy of Sophocles, with English Notes by T. Mitchell, 8vo, 5s.—Sermons at Aberystwyth, by Rev. John Hughes, 8vo, 7s.—Archbp. Usher's Works, Vol. XII., 8vo, 12s.—Poems, by Mrs. F. Hornblower, fep. 3s. 6d.—Schlegel's Essay on the Physiology of Serpents, translated by T. S. Traill, M.D., post 8vo, 6s. 6d.—Scripture-Truths, in Verse, for the Use of Young People, 12mo, 4s.—The Creation, illustrated by Engravings on Steel, by W. G. Rhind, square 12mo, 5s.—First Class Cyphering-Book, by G. Scott, 4to, Part I., 2s.—Sabbath Musings, by Mrs. Col. Mackay, 18mo, 2s.—Stories of India in connexion with Christian Missions, 12mo, 2s. 6d.—Scripture Characters, 300 Engravings, square, 12s.—The Unloved One: a Domestic Story, by Mrs. Hoffman, 3 vols. post 8vo, 11. 11s. 6d.—Historical Records and Secret Memoirs of the Union between Great Britain and Ireland, by Sir Jonah Barrington, new edit. 8vo, 14s.

DENT'S TABLE FOR THE EQUATION OF TIME. [This table shows the time which a clock or watch should indicate when the sun is on the meridian.]

1844.	h. m. a.	1844.	h. m. a.
Jan. 13 . . .	12 46 8	Jan. 13 . . .	12 10 191
14 . . .	9 9 3	14 . . .	10 33 0
15 . . .	9 31 3	15 . . .	10 52 1
16 . . .	9 52 5		

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We have to thank the editor for No. I. of *Municipal and Poor-Law Gazette*, with its information on subjects of local, parochial, and magisterial jurisdiction. We can only thank A. B. Halifax. To W. B. Glasgow, the same; his rhythm is occasionally at fault, and the subject is not of general interest.

The last six lines of the sonnet by U. would recommend it any where; but, alas! we cannot approve at all of the first eight.

We are again reluctantly compelled to postpone a biographical sketch of the late Mr. Loudon.

To the Editor of the Literary Gazette.

St. Lucia, West Indies, Nov. 28, 1843.

Sir,—Drawn by the magic name of Capt. Marryat, my attention has been engaged on the perusal of his *Narrative of the Travels and Adventures of Mon. Violet*, brought to this part of the world by the last steam-packet. The book itself I have not yet seen; but, judging from the specimens you give of its contents,—"with 'Captain Marryat's own version of the matter,'" wherein he disclaims the title to paternity, only in so far as "the opinions and occurrences remarks to be met with" are contrary,—"I should say he has not disclaimed any of the narratives which appear in the work, and that therefore his readers are left to consider it as a whole the legitimate offspring of his own genius. Be this as it may, however, I take the liberty of forwarding you a copy of the *St. Lucia Palladium* newspaper of the 24th Nov., 1842, in which you will find an account of the Prairie dogs given originally by Mr. Kendall, in the *New Orleans Picayune* (of which journal, if I mistake not, Mr. K. was editor), about twelve months before the appearance of Captain Marryat's narrative. Is this a "counterfeit presentment," or what?—Yours respectfully, A SUBSCRIBER."

Though the colour of the *Violet-ray* question has pretty well died away with us at home, we insert this letter in justice to our distant correspondent.—Ed. Lit. Gaz.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

MISCELLANEOUS.

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